

PARK BOARD

January 13, 2025

The January 13, 2025 Park Board meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers by Kate Niederkohr, Chairperson. Park Board members present were Jennifer Banta, Jon Blackburn, Dean Leonard, Kate Niederkohr, and Erin Smith. Bill Sturgeon was absent.

Others present included: Keith Niederkohr, Parks Manager; Nickie Coppler, City Auditor; John Walker; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The summary of bills totaling \$77,974.92 was presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Blackburn, seconded by Mrs. Banta, for the approval and payment of bills totaling \$77,974.92. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried.

The minutes of the November 12, 2024 Park Board meeting, having been mailed to each Park Board member, were approved as received.

Mr. Niederkohr provided an update on meetings held with Peterman Associates regarding the plans for a new swimming pool and pool house in Harrison Smith Park and he provided Park Board members with a copy of the plan prepared showing the layout of the new pool facility. Peterman Associates will be preparing posterboard sized images of the new pool facility to be shared with the community. It was noted that Mayor McColly and Mr. Niederkohr are scheduled to speak at the March 19, 2025 Mens' Lenten Luncheon and they plan to discuss the issue.

Mr. Niederkohr reported that the Winter Fantasy of Lights (WFOL) concluded another successful season at the end of December 2024. Mr. Niederkohr thanked the WFOL organizers for their contribution to the community.

A request was presented from the Wyandot County Humane Society to hold the their annual Pawzfest in Harrison Smith Park on Sunday, June 8, 2025 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and utilize the white shelter house in conjunction with the event. Park Board members voiced no objections to this request.

Mr. Niederkohr presented a quote from Hilltop Lawn & Sports Center, Harpster, Ohio, for the purchase of a Ferris zero turn mower with a 72" deck. The original purchase price for this mower is \$17,999.00 less a \$1,000.00 bid assist and less \$3,800.00 for the trade-in of the City's 2019 Ferris 72" mower, for a final purchase price of \$13,199.00.

A motion was made by Mr. Blackburn, seconded by Mr. Leonard, to approve the quote from Hilltop Lawn & Sports Center, Harpster, Ohio for the purchase of a Ferris zero turn mower with a 72" deck at a final purchase price of \$13,199.00, including \$3,800.00 for the trade-in of the City's 2019 Ferris 72" mower. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Mr. Niederkohr also presented quotes from Enhanced Surfacing, Findlay, Ohio, to repair the concrete floors in the men's and women's restrooms in Bicentennial Park and apply a clear topcoat at a cost of \$2,690.00; and to repair the concrete floors in the men's and women's restrooms in the heated brick building in Harrison Smith Park and apply a clear topcoat at a cost of \$2,284.00.

A motion was made by Mrs. Banta, seconded by Mr. Leonard, to approve the quotes from Enhanced Surfacing, Findlay, Ohio, to repair the concrete floors in the men's and women's restrooms in Bicentennial Park and in the heated brick building in Harrison Smith Park at a total cost of \$4,974.00. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Mr. Niederkohr indicated that there is a need for an individual to possess a commercial pesticide license to control the weeds around the playgrounds and ball fields. Mr. Steve Rhoden, Parks Department employee, is willing to obtain this license. Mr. Niederkohr noted that Mr. Rhoden would be eligible for an additional \$600.00 in pay per year for obtaining this license.

A motion was made by Mr. Leonard, seconded by Mr. Blackburn, to approve Mr. Steve Rhoden to obtain a commercial pesticide license and pay him \$600.00 per year for possessing this license. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Mr. Niederkohr suggested the Park Board begin advertising for a pool manager for 2025. It was noted that Mrs. Nickie Coppler, City Auditor, has provided a current job description for this position and Mrs. Niederkohr requested Park Board members review this information and provide any suggestions.

A motion was made by Mr. Blackburn, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to authorize the Human Resource Officer to advertise for a pool manager for 2025. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Mr. Niederkohr reported that Harrison Smith Park is open to walkers with parking available near the pool house or in the main parking lot. Mr. Niederkohr indicated that the park will be opened in phases as weather permits.

Mayor McColly reported that Omni Fiber has been installing internet cable throughout the community and the City is considering utilizing their services.

Mayor McColly indicated that the City's fireworks have been held on Friday evenings, close to the 4th of July holiday and in conjunction with Wyanstock, but this year the 4th of July falls on Friday and the individual(s) to set off the fireworks are not available to the City on the 4th of July. Thursday, July 3, 2025 has been selected as the date for the fireworks and Mayor McColly indicated that alternate locations are being considered including Harrison Smith Park. Mayor McColly noted that this would also be the date for the Wyandot County Chambers of Commerce's 1st Thursday event, and other events are also being considered in conjunction with 1st Thursdays and the fireworks.

Mrs. Banta reported that she was contacted by a resident about community movie nights being held at the Bandshell in Harrison Smith Park, similar to movie nights held in Bucyrus. It was noted that individuals are welcomed to organize these events and the rental of the movie from the production company would need to be considered. Mrs. Banta indicated that she will inquire with a representative from Bucyrus to discuss how their movie night events are planned.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned.

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Kate Niderkohr, Chairperson