

PARK BOARD

August 10, 2026

The August 10, 2026 Park Board meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers by Kate Niederkohr, Chairperson. Park Board members present were Jon Blackburn, Cathy Browne, Dean Leonard, Kate Niederkohr, Erin Smith, and Bill Sturgeon.

Others present included: Kyle McColly, Mayor; Todd Karg, Parks Manager; Laura Wines; Janeen Heilman; Tommy Jenkins; Charlie Schneider; Phil Schiffarth; Danny Schwartz, Daily Chief Union; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The summary of bills totaling \$150,170.49 was presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Blackburn, seconded by Ms. Browne, for the approval and payment of bills totaling \$150,170.49. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried.

The minutes of the July 13, 2026 Park Board meeting, having been mailed to each Park Board member, were approved as received.

Mrs. Laura Wines and Mrs. Janeen Heilman, co-Pool Managers, addressed the Park Board indicating that there were two hundred thirty-two (232) attendees from the Family Fun Fest held in Harrison Smith Park who came to the swimming pool on Friday, August 7, 2026. The pool admission for these attendees was sponsored by the Rotary Club.

Mrs. Wines and Mrs. Heilman indicated that voting for features for the new proposed swimming pool is currently ongoing at the swimming pool.

Ms. Browne complimented the pool staff regarding a medical emergency that took place at the swimming pool recently, noting that the situation was professionally handled by the staff.

Mr. Tommy Jenkins addressed the Park Board providing an update on the "Local Musician Showcase Concert" he had presented to the Park Board at the June 8, 2026 Park Board meeting. The event will be held on Saturday, September 5, 2026 from 12:00 p.m. (noon) to 7:00 p.m. at the bandshell in Harrison Smith Park. Mr. Jenkins explained the electrical needs for the event, and Mr. Karg indicated that the bandshell will be able to provide the electric needed. Mr. Jenkins indicated that twelve (12) acts have applied to participate in the event and the line-up will be set soon. Mr. Jenkins inquired as to if a donation cup for artists would be allowable, and Park Board members voiced no objections to this request.

Mr. Charlie Schneider and Mr. Phil Schilffarth, Brandstetter Carroll, Inc., addressed the Park Board and presented two options for the layout of the new swimming pool from the teams meetings held with City representatives, and they explained the water depths shown in each option. Mrs. Niederkohr indicated that shade structures are needed at the pool. Mrs. Niederkohr inquired about the cost of the options presented. Mr. Schneider indicated that a full cost analysis would have to be completed to provide an accurate cost, but Mr. Schneider estimated option #1 would cost between \$5,500,000.00 and \$6,000,000.00 and option #2 would cost an additional 15% over option #1, and neither option would include any features. Mrs. Niederkohr inquired with the Park Board members as to if they could agree that option #1 was preferred. Mr. Schneider explained that water slides can cost up to \$350,000.00 depending on the height of the structure, with the tallest waterslides being 35' but 20' to 25' waterslides being preferred by most clients. It was noted that currently visitors to the swimming pool are voting on the top three features they would like to have at the new swimming pool. A community event/public meeting to gain additional input from the community was discussed. Mayor McColly indicated that he is in communication with a representative from the Wyandot County EMS to see if the event can be held in the conference room of their building located at 401 North Warpole Street on Wednesday, August 26, 2026. A time for the event was discussed and Mayor McColly suggested it be held from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Karg reported on the following:

- Repairs to the bandshell by CSI Construction Services, Inc., Carey, Ohio, as approved by the Park Board at the February 9, 2026 Park Board meeting, were completed last week.
- McGuire Automotive is expected to provide hard samples of the material to resurface the Splash Pad in Bicentennial Park.
- The Parks Department employees will be making some repairs to the walking bridge in Harrison Smith Park to have the structure ready for painting by several alumni who were in Industrial Arts class in High School who helped build the walking bridge. The tentative timeframe for painting the bridge is over the 2026 Labor Day weekend.
- Three (3) companies, including Kid Stuff Play Systems, Snyder Recreation, and Midwest Recreation, are currently looking at the construction of the inclusive playground in Bicentennial Park. Mr. Karg has provided these companies with budget information and he has continued to communicate with these companies discussing options for the playground.
- The Winter Fantasy of Lights (WFOL) recently had concrete poured on the approach at the red shelter in Harrison Smith Park, where the WFOL displays are stored, and additional concrete was poured along the south side of the building for parking.

Park Board members reviewed the 2026 Upper Sandusky Swim Lessons report as provided by Mrs. Jill Eyestone. The report shows a total of two hundred four (204) children enrolled in the program, including Levels 1 through Level 6, and one hundred (100) of those children who passed those levels.

Ms. Browne indicated that she volunteers as a swim lesson instructor and she met recently with Mrs. Eyestone and several swim lesson volunteers to discuss volunteer training, volunteer recruitment, selecting the criteria for children to pass the swim levels, and rewards for the children who pass swim levels. Ms. Browne noted that the swim lesson volunteers will be meeting again in the future to further discuss swim lessons.

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

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Kate Niederkohr, Chairperson