



**12 N. Charles, White Cloud, MI 49349
Parks & Recreation Committee Minutes
February 1, 2024, at 7:30 a.m.**

1. Meeting Called to Order

Member Barnhard called the meeting to order at 7:46 a.m.

Attendees: Don Barnhard, April Storms, Lori Shears, Ed Canning

Absent: Mary Bleiler

Staff present: Kelli Arnold, Makayla Brandt Public in Attendance: None

2. Set/Amend Agenda

Agenda presented for the regular Parks & Rec committee for February 1, 2024.

Barnhard and Canning would like to amend the agenda to add item F, North Street Sports Complex and G, WCPS update.

Motion by Shears **Supported** by Canning to accept the amended agenda for February 1, 2024.

Vote: Ayes- All Nays- None

Motion Carried

3. Minutes of November 2, 2023.

Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting held on November 2, 2023, were presented for consideration.

Motion by Canning, **Supported** by Shears to approve the Parks and Recreation meeting minutes as presented.

Vote: Ayes- All Nays- None

Motion Carried

4. Discussion Items

a. Mill Pond Playground Equipment

The new playground equipment including (1) Flower Drum, (1) Standing Drum Quintet, (1) Curved Post Tilted Pebble Bridge, (1) 2 Bay 1 Cantilever Swing Set with Seats and Hardware, (1) Tire Swing with seats and hardware, Rhythm Group of 3, (1) Panel Craggy Island Climber and Honeycomb Hand Drums, engineered wood fiber and 12' border timbers to surround the play area in the amount of \$40,935.00 was paid for in December 2023 and expected delivery is Spring, 2024. A grant through the Fremont Area Community Foundation (FACF) covered \$40,000.00 of the playground equipment cost.

b. Dam Repairs

The City of White Cloud was chosen as a full grant recipient for Round 1 of Michigan Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy Dam Risk Reduction Grant. The bid came in under what was expected, it will go to Council for approval on February 6th, 2024. The expected date to begin is April 2024.

c. Gus Macker Tournament

The City of White Cloud is tentatively slated to host Gus Macker in 2025. Chad Fetterley, Lori Shears and April Storms will serve on the 2024 Gus Macker Committee to gain knowledge that will help host a successful event when it comes to White Cloud. The need is great for volunteers

and school involvement from the City of White Cloud. The event requires approximately 250 volunteers.

d. WC Sky Fest

Lori Shears and April Storms are working with River Country Chamber to collaborate on a 2024 event in the city. Plans are in the works for "Sky Fest", an event to be held at the airport on June 15th; the event would include food vendors, (2) tethered hot air ballons, music, beer tent and fireworks to end the evening. Sunday, June 16th will be the annual Father's Day Fly-In breakfast at the airport.

e. WC Public Schools Athletic Signs

Superintendent Canning and City Manager Storms are working on signs for the entrances to the city that would highlight the school achievements. (Regionals, Districts, State etc....)

f. North Street Sports Complex

There is a large pile of tires at the North Street Sports Complex near the baseball field dugout, unsure if they were left there after the high school baseball season, they are very unsightly. . Moving forward would like to see something other than tires used to protect the pitcher mound and Homeplate. Superintendent Canning will address the issue.

g. WC Public Schools Update

Superintendent Canning updated the Parks and Rec committee on possible school updates, such as baseball/softball fields at the old JDJ site, a lighted walking path from the middle school to the upper elementary school, and security updates at the school.

There are several options, the most favorable among those working to make the updates become a reality is to extend the current debt. The options discussed were:

1. Sinking fund (raise taxes)
2. Wish & hope for a grant.
3. Extend the current White Cloud School debt of 9.5 mills per parcel.

C. Public Comment

Makayla Brandt

Received

D. Correspondence

E. Adjournment

Motion by Shears, **Supported** by Canning to adjourn the Parks & Recreation meeting at 8:06 a.m.

Vote: Ayes- All Nays- None

Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted:

Kelli Arnold Clerk

Approved on: 5-2-2024