

PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

October 20, 2020
Zoom Meeting
5:30 pm

Public Services Committee Members Present; Mike Daugherty, James Harrison, Juan Topete, Ceri Otero

Members Absent;

Staff Present; Tom Short, Mark Peterson, and Kailey Williams

Non-Members Present: Craig Diggs

At 5:30 pm, Mr. Topete called the meeting to order.

Old Business:

1. Consider and approve minutes from the previous meeting.
Mr. Daugherty made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

No new business to present.

STAFF REPORTS

Parks and Recreation Director- Mark Peterson

DNR Grant- Parks Department turned in the Missouri Scrap Tire Grant and was awarded \$24,000. The products include benches, tables, playground surface materials, and possibly other products to help improve our public parks. A budget adjustment was made to buy the product. The process is being delayed to see about receiving advice from the master plan consultants.

Tree Board- Tree board is currently trying to fill some vacant spots. An application is posted on the Carthage website to apply. Several applications have been received and will be reviewed at the next Tree Board meeting. They just completed a mulching project out at Kellogg Lake. Parks Department has asked them to take an active role in helping move into the Tree Inventory and Tree Maintenance Capital project coming up.

The Tree Board is also looking to update 21-278 of the City Code by removing the specific listings of approved and unapproved trees. Tree Board would maintain the approved tree list through listing on the state website and city website in the future.

Park Master Plan- Mark Peterson visited with Dick Horton multiple times to work on the Master Plan's first steps. They are creating a contact list of key stakeholders for the upcoming meetings. A range of days is being set to host Zoom meetings and in-person meetings to develop some of the data needed to form the survey work. Part of Dick Horton's consultant team, is Land3 Studio, and they work with the Athletic fields, playgrounds, and trail connection analysis for survey work. Mr. Peterson and Land3 studio are going to visit together in conjunction with the R9 representatives. Mr. Peterson is putting together a Steering Committee. The committee will be made up of five to seven people. Several meetings are going to be held to bounce around several ideas and thoughts with the committee.

Capital Projects- Mr. Peterson has spoken with Jon Skinner from the Missouri Conservation Department to develop the scope of services and maintenance work. We are putting together Bid packages that will include both inventory and maintenance work. Parks Department has ordered new trucks, and they are on their way. We have a $\frac{3}{4}$ ton with trailer brakes, which was ordered through state contract pricing, and we have a $\frac{1}{2}$ ton with a lift gate, which was also ordered through state contract pricing. The golf course is upgrading some of their essential equipment, which will involve several trades of current equipment. The Golf Cart bid package for 50 carts with 50 trades will be going out soon. The Bunker Renovation will begin quickly. We are looking at larger bulk sand pricing and a few more items to start the work.

Maple Leaf- Last Saturday at Kellogg Lake, the Maple Leaf Car Show had a great turn out. Three hundred sixteen cars entered the show. Vendors were pleased with their sales. Central Park attracted a large group with the Tractor Show and other activities.

Walnut Bottoms- We are experiencing some issues with gates at Walnut Bottoms. Someone is locking a gate that typically would be open. They're using their own locks. We are trying to determine who is responsible and why they are doing this. More information to come.

Carter Park- Demo projects will start up soon, and the old bathrooms are first on the list.

Municipal Park- Demo projects will also start up at Municipal with the rock shelter located in the middle of the park across from the fairgrounds. The Beyond Baseball group has delayed the negotiations related to COVID. We are still waiting for the financial proposal.

Central Park- The flowerbeds are having a little overhaul. We are hoping to get this done within 2-3 weeks. The Roundabout has overhaul as well. There is a homeless situation happening in Central Park. Carthage Police Department has been involved with the problem. We are coming up with some solutions.

Griggs Park- The Pickleball Courts are completed. We will be having our grand opening on Thursday, October 22, at 10 am in conjunction with the Community Gardens. We are using this publicity opportunity to inform the public about the courts' availability and discuss our partnership with HERE4Carthage. HERE4Carthage has plans to provide additional playground equipment in the near future. We are trying to coordinate that with the Master Plan.

Freer- Dirt work and grass are going to be completed this week.

Fair Acres- Staff at Fair Acres is moving all the outdoor fitness equipment, which will be completed in the upcoming weeks. Several trees have been planted that will provide shade down the road.

Golf Course/Driving Range- September numbers at the Golf Course were up significantly. Rounds and revenue are both up. During the first quarter, revenue has increased by 17% from last year. We hope to continue to see the increase in numbers and players. We have two more tournaments that will complete our event season. There has been a significant spike in the event request for 2021. The driving range building is 3rd on the demo list.

COVID- An employee at the Civil War Museum tested positive yesterday. Park's staff is currently safe. The CARES application for COVID cost recovery that was approved for \$20,211.46 for the Parks Department.

Staff- Key Personnel are doing a great job. We have revamped several responsibilities in our realignment process over the last year. Several of our employees, Brian Bradley, Aaron Borland, Melanie Blizzard, Tyler Markham, and Kailey Williams, have all stepped up to handle the realignment, new responsibilities, and expectations. I am very proud of our staff and the work they do.

Other Business- Discussion was held about the unauthorized Truck Show that took place at Kellogg Lake on September 26, 2020. There will be more information presented as we determine more details.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.