



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Meridian Township Service Center
Tuesday, July 13, 2021 4:30 pm

PRESENT: Commissioners Michael McDonald, Mark Stephens Stephens, Ami Van Antwerp, Mary Nardo-Farris, and Chair Amanda Lick

EXCUSED: None

STAFF: LuAnn Maisner, Director of Parks and Recreation; Kati Adams, Parks and Land Preservation Superintendent; Bridget Cannon, Administrative Assistant

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Lick called the meeting to order at 4:36 pm

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tim Morrissy, Meridian Township resident, recently retired from General Motors. He is interested in seeing how government works and looked at the Meridian Township website to see upcoming board meetings. The Park Commission meeting worked with his schedule.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner McDonald MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED, with the addition of the mosquito communication. Seconded by Commissioner Stephens.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JUNE 8, 2021

Commissioner Farris noted an error in Item 5A First Line. Should be changed to “SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER MCDONALD.” MOVED BY COMMISSIONER MCDONALD AND SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER FARRIS TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS AMENDED.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Mosquito Message

Due to dry spring conditions and recent rain and warm temperatures, the mosquito population has exploded in our community, which created a number of inquiries from residents. Staff drafted a message for the website and social media for posting. The commission recommended amending one of the links due to the link name.

B. Capital Improvement Program 2022-2027

The CIP is a planning and budgeting document that plans for six years of public improvements over \$5000 and reviewed annually. Director Maisner prepared an updated version for 2022-2027 for Park Commission review. At this meeting, the Park Commission focused on projects

for 2022 for budgeting purposes, and plan to do a complete review as part of the Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan update later this year.

C. 2022 Budget Request

Director Maisner presented the General Fund and Park Millage budgets pertaining to parks. A majority of the expenses are fixed and associated with salaries, benefits and motor pool. Since the salary and benefit information had not yet been entered by the Finance Director, the budget summary that was presented was estimated. Director Maisner will forward the final proposed budget to the Park Commission once everything is updated.

6. ACTION ITEMS

A. 2022 Capital Improvement Program 2022-2027

Commissioner Van Antwerp MOTION TO APPROVE 2022 OF THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM 2022-2027 INCLUDING:

- TOWNER ROAD PLAYGROUND - \$400,000
- PARKING LOT REPAVING/EXPANSION AT CENTRAL PARK SOUTH, MARSHALL PARK, AND NORTH MERIDIAN ROAD PARK – 200,000
- NEW PARK SIGNS AND SITE FURNISHINGS - \$50,000
- SHADE STRUCTURE AT TOWNER – 20,000
- FLOATING WATER FILTERING ISLANDS – 18,000

MOTION WAS SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER MCDONALD.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

B. 2022 Budget Request

Commissioner Stephens MOTION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED 2022 BUDGET REQUEST FOR PARKS INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS:

- TOWNER ROAD PLAYGROUND - \$400,000
- PARKING LOT REPAVING/EXPANSION AT CENTRAL PARK SOUTH, MARSHALL PARK, AND NORTH MERIDIAN ROAD PARK – 200,000
- NEW PARK SIGNS AND SITE FURNISHINGS - \$50,000
- SHADE STRUCTURE AT TOWNER – 20,000
- FLOATING WATER FILTERING ISLANDS – 18,000

THE MOTION WAS SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER NARDO-FARRIS.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

7. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. Pavilion Rentals** – Rentals have exploded, and the calendar is full. Trash in the parks has been an issue for some time. Director Maisner is looking at additional dumpsters at several parks for maintenance staff to use as well as new software reservation and membership software to better manage pavilion rentals and dog park membership renewals.
- B. Dog Park** – There are currently 740 dog park memberships.
- C. Summer Concert Series** – Steve Spees opened the Summer Concert Series at Marketplace with an entertaining performance July 7. He played despite the rainy conditions and did a great job! Taylor Taylor, acoustic artist, will perform Wednesday, July 14.
- D. Leap Art Grant** – Local artist, Dane Porter, was selected for the LEAP Art Grant at Marketplace. He is working on a custom design based on a recent idea input meeting.
- E. Artificial Ice – Marketplace on the Green** - The artificial ice rink is ready to be ordered for installation at Marketplace, East Wing in November. The board discussed skate availability for residents and possibly partnering with area churches or businesses to obtain donated skates.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Tim Morrissy felt it was an interesting and passionate meeting. He thanked the Park Commission for their work.

9. OTHER MATTERS AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Bridget Cannon, Parks and Recreation Administrative Assistant was introduced.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objections, Chair Lick adjourned the meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled to be Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at 4:30 pm, Towner Road Park.