

Park Board Minutes  
Thursday, September 7, 2023 at 5:00 P.M.  
City Hall Council Chambers

**1. CALL TO ORDER** – Chairperson Carpenter called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

**2. ROLL CALL** - Roll call was taken: Derek Lundell, Council Member – present, Ken Carpenter – present, Steve Nordin – present, Chuck Widholm – present, Becky Youngmark - present  
Also present: City Administrator Neil Jensen, Utility Clerk Ellen Hartman, Public Works Director Jed Petersen, Councilmember Diane Johnson

Carpenter added Item C to New Business: Football Request by ISD 252

**3. MINUTES**

Action – ***Motion by Youngmark, second by Nordin, to approve the June 25, 2023 and August 3, 2023 minutes, passing unanimously.***

**4. PUBLIC INPUT** - None

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. VFW Request**

Jensen reported that the VFW request is an FYI only, since the item needed council approval before the Park Board was able to meet and approve it. The event will be held on September 16<sup>th</sup>, which is prior to the next City Council meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup>. The VFW is planning on Cannon Cruiser parking their classic cars at Minnieska Park during the annual hog roast. Council approved the request at the September 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. Widholm was not in favor of allowing cars in the park.

**B. Park Bench Donations – Konietzko and Flom**

Petersen reported that two park bench donation requests have been received. Pam Konietzko would like to donate a memorial park bench, to be placed in East Side Park near the pickle ball court, in memory of Tony Nobach. Pam will pay for the bench; public works staff will supply the labor and concrete to install the bench and concrete pad. Additionally, the Flom family would like to donate two memorial swinging park benches, to be placed in Minnieska park in memory of Marilyn Flom. The estate will pay for the swings; public works staff will supply the labor and concrete to install the swings and concrete pads. Commissioners requested that a plaque be placed to honor the monetary gift to East Side Park, that helped build the pickle ball court.

Action – ***Motion by Nordin, second by Youngmark, to accept the donation of a memorial park bench from Pam Konietzko for East Side Park and the donation of two swinging benches for Minnieska Park from the family of Marilyn Flom, with PW staff providing the labor and concrete pads, passing unanimously.***

**C. Football Request ISD 252**

The school requested to use JBP for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade football games, since the field at the high school is too hard to play on.

Action – ***Motion by Lundell, second by Youngmark, to allow 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade football games to be played at JBP, passing 4-1 with Widholm voting nay.***

## **6. REPORTS**

**A. Staff** – Petersen reported that staff demolished the 3<sup>rd</sup> base dugout at JBP in anticipation of construction, the lights have been put on new pedestals, and snow fence will be put around the construction area for safety. Jensen reported that the council will soon approve the professional service agreement with WHKS for the JBP wall project; wall will be built in 2024.

**B. Commissioners** – Youngmark questioned if the Park Board should recommend banning marijuana smoking and vaping in the parks. Consensus of the board to recommend the council create an ordinance prohibiting marijuana use and vaping in the parks.

Action – ***Motion by Youngmark, second by Carpenter, to recommend the City follow the League of Minnesota Cities recommendation and prohibit marijuana smoking and vaping in city parks, passing unanimously.***

Widholm – Concerned that repair items from 2018, such as rusted out grills and the poor condition of the disc golf course, have not been addressed. Picnic tables should also be addressed.

Carpenter – Recommended moving forward with updating way-finding signs throughout the City; staff stated that other large upcoming projects will need funding.

## **7. NEXT MEETING**

Action – ***Next meeting will be October 5, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. in council chambers.***

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

Action – ***Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 p.m. by Lundell, second by Youngmark, passing unanimously.***

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ellen Hartman, Utility Clerk

*-Approved at the 10/05/23 Park Board Meeting-*