

Park Board Minutes
Special Meeting
Tuesday, June 25, 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 – absent, 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, Community & Business Development Specialist Laura Qualey, Councilmember Diane Johnson, Leon Endres, Mark Sonstegard

3. MINUTES

Action – ***Motion by Youngmark, second by Nordin, to approve the June 1, 2023 minutes, passing unanimously.***

Motion by Youngmark, second by Nordin, to approve the July 6, 2023 minutes, passing unanimously.

4. PUBLIC INPUT - None

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Introduce New Public Works Director – Jed Petersen

Jensen introduced Petersen to the Board.

B. Deck the Falls Fireworks

Jensen reported that CF Chamber has applied to shoot off fireworks during Deck the Falls from John Burch Park (JBP).

Action – ***Motion by Youngmark, second by Nordin, to allow the Cannon Falls Chamber of Commerce to shoot off fireworks from JBP on November 25, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. during Deck the Falls, passing unanimously.***

C. Towering Bluffs

Jensen and Qualey presented parkland plans for Towering Bluffs development. The developers are proposing 28.5 acres of parks, ponds, and trails. Discussion by the Board on how the City would support additional housing, such as if there are enough businesses and overburdening City employees with additional parks to manage. Qualey assured the Board that growth will be slow and managed. Jensen reported that a trail system would link the new developments. The dedication fulfills the parkland requirement of 10% of the land in the development dedicated to parks.

Action – ***Motion by Nordin, second by Youngmark, to recommend the City Council approve the Towering Bluffs parkland designation, passing on a 3-0-1 vote with Carpenter, Nordin and Youngmark voting aye and Widholm abstaining.***

D. Endres Concept Plan

Mark Sonstegard of JMH Land Development, representing Leon Endres, spoke to the parkland dedication for Timber Ridge, which includes the former Sandstone Ridge development. The parkland designation will include a 2.8-acre park in the north area, and 14+ acres in the south area of the

development; the north park is proposed as a traditional park, and the south area as grassy walking trails. This acreage fulfills the land requirement for parkland designation. The Board discussed if the park to the north was large enough, how kids would access the park, and if City infrastructure could handle new developments. Jensen, Petersen and Qualey assured the Board that the park was large enough and that the City's water and sewer were built to handle growth.

Action - ***Motion by Nordin, second by Youngmark, to recommend the City Council approve the Endres Timber Ridge parkland designation, passing unanimously.***

E. Hardwood Estates

Qualey presented the parkland designation for Hardwood Estates. The area is near the corner of Hwy 19 and County 24, and it is 2.5 acres. It is less than the 10% parkland requirement, so the City will provide park infrastructure and equipment in lieu of land. The Board was concerned about the park being in the far northeast corner of the development; Jensen stated that a development to the south will potentially provide a park closer to the houses in the southwest corner of Hardwood Estates.

Action - ***Motion by Youngmark, second by Nordin, to recommend the City Council approve the Hardwood Estates parkland designation, passing unanimously.***

6. REPORTS

A. Staff – None

B. Commissioners – Youngmark reminded staff to place a donation plaque on the East Side Park pickle ball court; Youngmark questioned how to educate the community about the injured swan. Carpenter commended the amount of JBP donations received so far.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting date was discussed. The August meeting will be skipped, since this special meeting is so close to the next regular meeting date. Jensen will call an August meeting only if necessary.

Action – ***Next meeting will be September 7, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. in council chambers.***

9. ADJOURNMENT

Action – ***Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 6:11 p.m. by Nordin, second by Youngmark, passing unanimously.***

Respectfully Submitted,
Ellen Hartman, Utility Clerk

-Minutes approved at September 7, 2023 meeting-