

## PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

February 4, 2015

The Merrill Parks and Recreation Commission met on Wednesday, February 4, 2015 at 4:15 p.m. at the City Hall.

Members Present: Mike Willman, Ralph Sturm, Dorwin Harris, Melissa Schroeder, and Brian Artac.

Members Excused Absent: Dave Sukow

Department Staff Present: Dan Wendorf and Dawn Smith

Visitors: Dave Johnson, Tonia Speener from Clark Dietz and Rod Akey

\*\*\*Motion by Schroeder, seconded by Artac to approve the minutes from the January 14, 2015 meeting.

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

\*\*\*Motion by Artac, seconded by Schroeder, to approve the claims.

Sturm questioned what the bill for \$11,501.18 from the Street Department was for and why it came out of the City Forest Timber Salvage. Wendorf stated it was the labor for the parking lot at the MARC.

\*\*\*Carried Unanimously.

Public Comment: None

The next item on the agenda was update and discussion on Aquatic Center progress. Wendorf stated that everything for the pool was going according to the time line by Water Technology Inc. Wendorf stated that 50% progress drawing will be released to the city by February 16, 2015 for approval. Wendorf stated that he has contacted Daniel from WTI to see if the March 6<sup>th</sup> date could be moved up to March 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> so that the Park and Recreation Commission can review drawing and consideration to release to public for bidding according to the timeline. Wendorf is waiting for confirmation from WTI. Wendorf stated that the pool design team will be meeting later this month to finalize plans with WTI before presenting to Park and Recreation Commission.

The next item on the agenda was to discuss MARC soccer parking lot – potential funding shortfall. Wendorf stated that another \$5,000 will be needed to finish the soccer parking lot. Wendorf stated that the Street Department did go over a little on the original bid but now if plans are to finish it will cost another \$5,000 for granite and labor, the street department has the gravel needed to finish the parking lot. Wendorf stated the money has to come from someplace to finish the project. Wendorf stated that they are in the process of cutting timber now at the City Forest and could possibly utilize some of that money. Schroeder questioned if there would be enough money from the sale to cover the \$5,000. Wendorf stated there would be.

\*\*\*Motion by Sturm, seconded by Artac to take \$5,000 out of the current timber sale at the City Forest to finish paying for the MARC Soccer parking lot.

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was review/approve WDNR Resolution supporting submittal of Stewardship Grant Application for funding River Bend Trail construction from Polk St. to Hwy. 64. Willman stated that they need approval from the city to apply for the Stewardship Grant. Schroeder stated that there have been cuts in Stewardship Grants and what will the Riverbend Trail Committee do if they do not receive the grant. Willman stated that they will raise the money. Sturm questioned who will be paying for maintenance on the trail. City Administrator Dave Johnson started to answer the question and Sturm stated Johnson is not a voting member of the Park and Recreation Commission and does not have floor privileges. Sturm said Johnson should not be seated at the table and should ask permission to speak. Wendorf stated that the maintenance will be paid from the cell tower rental. Willman stated that annually to maintain a trail is around \$2,500.00, after talking with other communities who have similar trails.

\*\*\*Motion by Schroeder, seconded by Artac to approve the WDNR Resolution supporting submittal of Stewardship Grant Application for funding River Bend Trail construction from Polk Street to Hwy. 64.

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was monthly reports. Wendorf asked if there were any questions on his board report. Sturm questioned Wendorf were the Street Department pruned trees. Wendorf stated some in the Ward some on the East side and other locations. Sturm stated he talked with the Street Commissioner and he stated that they have not done any tree trimming in months. Schroeder questioned what will be done with the \$1,000.00 that was left over from the floor scrubber purchase. Wendorf stated it goes back into general budget. Schroeder questioned how Winterfest went. Wendorf stated that it went good. Schroeder stated that she thought it was nice it was not on same weekend as Wausau. Wendorf stated he has been talking with Wausau and they try and not overlap with our events.

\*\*\*Motion by Artac, seconded by Schroeder to approve monthly reports.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2015 at 4:15 p.m. Willman stated that he will not be at the March meeting and asked Harris if he could run the meeting.

Public comment: Harris stated that on the west side of the soccer building it needs to be cleaned up. Harris stated that it is very wet and sloppy and would look and be a lot nicer if the area was cleaned up.

\*\*\*Motion by Artac, seconded by Harris to adjourn at 4:45 p.m.

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

Dawn Smith  
Recording Secretary