

## PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

December 2, 2015

The Merrill Parks and Recreation Commission met on Wednesday, December 2, 2015 at 4:15 p.m. at the Merrill City Hal.

Members Present: Mike Willman, Dave Sukow, Jean Ravn, Brian Artac and Ben Debroux

Members Excused Absent: Troy Pieper, Melissa Schroeder

Department Staff Present: Dan Wendorf and Dawn Smith

Visitors: Candy Peterson

\*\*\*Motion by Sukow, seconded by Artac to approve the minutes from the October meeting.

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

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

Sukow questioned about the porta potties at Normal Park and the cost to have them there. Sukow stated that if they continue to pay for porta potties the City would be wasting a lot of money. Sukow also questioned the water bill at Athletic Park. Wendorf stated that the bill was for irrigation and the whole season of baseball. Wendorf stated that Merrill Baseball always chips in part for the bill. Artac question what centurion/glisten and lemon drop was. Wendorf stated that they are cleaning supplies used at the Smith Center.

\*\*\*Carried Unanimously.

Public Comment: None

The first item on the agenda was a presentation on City Forest timber management from Rich LaValley (WDNR). Rich LaValley showed a presentation on the history of the City Forest and also explained how they manage the City Forest through timber sales. Rich LaValley stated they are putting in new roads and managing the roads and trails they have now. Rich also stated that he has almost the entire boundary lines painted around the City Forest.

The next item on the agenda was to review/approve Smith Center hot water heater bids. Wendorf stated that there was only one bid received from Mechanical Incorporated for \$41,300.00. Wendorf recommended accepting the bid stating the Mechanical does all of the needed maintenance around the building and is very familiar with the equipment and the building.

\*\*\*Motion by Sukow, seconded by Ravn to accept the bid from Mechanical Inc. for \$41,300.00 for the new hot water heaters at the Smith Center.

\*\*\*Carried Unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was continued discussion regarding Bierman Family Aquatic Center policies. Wendorf stated that he downsized the rules and regulations from the first draft. Wendorf asked if anyone had any changes they would like to make. City Administrator Dave Johnson stated that he did not like the last item listed on the policies stating that if we continue to close

the pool due to low attendance people who purchased season passes are going to get upset if the pool is always closed. Sukow also stated that the temperature one should not be on there.

\*\*\*Motion by Sukow, seconded by Artac to approve the rules and regulations of the Bierman Family Aquatic Center eliminating the last two rules that the pool will close when the air temperature is less than 70 degrees and skies are cloudy and that the pool will close due to poor attendance of less than 50 patrons one hour after opening.

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was to revisit Bike Route Designation initiatives and pedestrian routes to the Merrill Area Recreation Complex. Wendorf stated that he just wanted to bring everyone up to date on the bike routes. Wendorf stated that there was some confusion last summer on getting the bike routes painted and signed and he is hoping that next summer the bike trails can be completed. Wendorf stated that he put some information in everyone's packet regarding the bike routes and asked if anyone had any questions or concerns.

The next item on the agenda was monthly board reports. Wendorf asked if anyone had any questions. Wendorf stated that he met with Eric Pfantz in regards to the Disc Golf courses. Wendorf stated that he received a packet from Eric in regards to all the ideas for some new disc golf courses. Wendorf would like to see the disc golf courses back on the agenda in the near future for discussion and hopefully some action. Sukow stated that this was a great idea and a great way to utilize the parks.

\*\*\*Motion by Sukow, seconded by Ravn to approve the monthly board report given by Wendorf.

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for January 6, 2015 at 4:15 p.m. at the Merrill City Hall.

No public comment

\*\*\*Motion by Sukow, seconded by Artac to adjourn at 5:30 p.m.

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

Dawn Smith  
Recording Secretary