

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

March 7, 2018

The Merrill Parks and Recreation Commission met on Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at 4:15 p.m. at the Merrill City Hall.

Members Present: Brian Artac, John Burgener, Dave Sukow, Jean Ravn, Joan Tabor, Melissa Schroeder

Members Excused Absent: Mike Willman

Department Staff Present: Dan Wendorf and Dawn Smith

Visitors: City Administrator Dave Johnson, Kandy Peterson, Erik Pfantz, Bill Heideman

***Motion by Schroeder, seconded by Ravn to approve the minutes from the February meeting.

***Carried unanimously.

***Motion by Sukow, seconded by Burgener, to approve the claims from February 2018

***Carried unanimously.

The first item on the agenda was to review/approve Stange Park restroom/shelter bids. Wendorf stated that there was a total of 5 bids that came in. All bids were higher than anticipated, but there is enough in the budget to complete the project. Wendorf stated the highest bid is \$280,688.00 from SD Ellenbecker and the lowest bid is \$254,398.00 from JAS. Wendorf stated that the city has never done work with JAS before but checked on their references and other contractors and the City of Wausau spoke very highly of them.

***Motion by Sukow, seconded by Burgener to except the bid from JAS in the amount of \$254,398.00.

***Carried Unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was to begin Agra Pavilion discussion as a rentable facility. Artac stated that a lot of work has to be completed before rentals begin on the pavilion. Wendorf stated that this facility could be rented year round if we wanted to. Wendorf stated that he would like to do resident as a \$75.00 rental fee, and non-resident as a \$85.00 rental fee with a \$75.00 security deposit. Burgener stated that he doesn't think you should do resident/non-resident fee because a lot of the donations that came in were made by non-residents. Artac thought the rental fee should be higher in the winter because more utilities will be used. Wendorf stated that the building is going to have to stay heated either way because of the bathrooms. Schroeder questioned if the parking area would be plowed all winter, Wendorf stated it would be. Artac suggested that this item be put back on the agenda for next month.

The next item on the agenda was to review/discuss 10 year capital plan. Wendorf stated that Finance Director Kathy Unertl requests a 10 year capital plan to help with financial planning for upcoming years. Artac would like to see the Stange Park basketball court and any amenities we don't do this year to be put back on the plan.

The next item on the agenda was to discuss parking between Kitchenette Park and Legion Building and immediately east of Legion building – potential development interest in that area. Wendorf stated that City Administrator Dave Johnson requested this on the agenda. City Administrator Johnson stated that there may be a potential buyer for the Legion building but would require some parking areas. Johnson stated that they would not be able to park in the current parking lot because when the park has rentals the parking lot is utilized by the park renters. Johnson suggested selling the lot between the old tennis courts and the trees and the potential buyer could put a parking lot in there. Johnson asked the Park and Recreation Commission to consider this and he would keep them informed on the potential sale of the building.

The next item on the agenda is monthly reports. Wendorf asked if anyone had any questions. Wendorf stated he received a grant for lifejackets for the Aquatic Center. Wendorf stated they are getting ready to get their equipment out of storage and get it ready for the upcoming season.

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

***Carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 11, 2018 at 4:15 p.m. at the Merrill City Hall.

Public comment: John Burgener stated that the River Bend trail has some ice spots that should be salted before someone falls and get hurt.

***Motion by Burgener, seconded by Tabor to adjourn at 5:00 p.m.

***Carried unanimously.

Dawn Smith
Recording Secretary