

## PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

March 6, 2019

The Merrill Parks and Recreation Commission met on Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 4:15 p.m. at the Merrill City Hall.

Members Present: Kyle Gulke, Joan Tabor, Brian Artac, Dave Sukow, Kate Baker, Jean Ravn

Members Excused Absent: Dan Novitch

Department Staff Present: Dan Wendorf and Dawn Smith

Visitors: City Administrator Dave Johnson, Ron Liberty, Mayor Derek Woellner and MP3:

\*\*\*Motion by Baker, seconded by Sukow to approve the minutes from the February meeting.

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

\*\*\*Motion by Sukow, seconded by Ravn, to approve the claims from February.

Sukow questioned how many picnic tables were ordered that costed \$10,000. Wendorf stated they ordered 30 picnic tables. Wendorf stated all the picnic tables are heavy duty so that they are able to uphold the wear and tear on them being in the parks. Sukow also questioned the bill from VanErt in the amount of \$236,738.70. Wendorf stated that they did have a grant for \$40,000 through MLB and \$5,000 through WPS. Baker questioned the bill for the Milwaukee Brewers. Wendorf stated that this was for one of the bus trips that the Merrill Park and Recreation Department offers.

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

Public Comment: none

The next item on the agenda was to continue discussion on 2020 Capital and Operational Budgets. Wendorf stated that there really isn't any room for any cuts to the department. City Administrator Johnson stated that insurance will be going up next year again. Wendorf stated that the department will hopefully have a plan in place incase cuts are needed. Gulke stated that with the Capital part the Park and Recreation Department should be working more with the 5 Year Plan to some Capital improvements. Capital and Operational Budgets will be on the agenda every month for discussion. Wendorf stated that Parks and Recreation should stay aggressive with beautifying parks and improving facilities to continue drawing people to use them and remain City of Parks.

The next item on the agenda was general discussion on City Plan Commission composition. Wendorf stated through feedback he heard he would like to potentially remove the automatic relationship between City Plan and Park and Recreation Commission. Mayor Woellner stated that if the Park and Recreation Commission would want to choose someone besides the Chair person to be on the City Plan Commission than the Mayor would not have to appoint anyone else unless no other Park and Recreation Commission member would not volunteer to be on City Plan.

\*\*\*Motion by Artac, seconded by Baker, to recommend to the City Council that the City Plan Commission shall consist of the Mayor who shall be the presiding officer, the selected Park and

Recreation Commission member, or if no Park and Recreation Commission member volunteers the Mayor would than appoint someone else to the City Plan.

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was discussion regarding E-Bikes on City Trails. Wendorf wanted to bring this item to the Commissions attention because there is a local business that would like to purchase some to give their residents rides on the River Bend Trail. Wendorf included some information regarding E-Bikes and will keep the Commission updated.

The next item on the agenda was monthly reports. Wendorf asked if anyone had any questions. No questions.

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

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at 4:15 p.m. at the Merrill City Hall.

Public comment: Sukow stated that he would like to see the city get rid of that piece of land on Glen and Crescent Drive.

Gulke stated that some other pieces of land should be looked at also to maybe either redevelop or maybe sell. Gulke stated that the 5 year plan needs updating so that people know which projects have been completed. Baker also stated that Church Mutual will be doing community services again so if anyone has ideas please let her know. Last year they did some park clean up.

\*\*\*Motion by Ravn, seconded by Baker to adjourn at 5:15 p.m.

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

Dawn Smith  
Recording Secretary