

Hartford Park and Recreation Board - Regular Meeting September 25, 2023

President Josh Mulder called to order the meeting of the Park and Recreation Board at 6:30pm at Hartford City Hall with the following board members present: Josh Mulder, Callie Tuschen, Kandi Lewin, and Craig Wanger. Matt Evans, Gail Blocker, and Chris Woslager were absent with notice. City Administrator Teresa Sidel was also present. There was no one from the public present at the meeting.

Approve Agenda & Minutes: A motion was made by Tuschen, second by Mulder to approve the 9/25/23 agenda and the 8/28/23 meeting minutes – all voted yes, motion carried.

Public Comments: None

Reports:

- Public Works Superintendent Craig Wagner reported that the city has placed 6 benches, with 4 of them already spoken for. The city is also rebuilding the dugout at Lyons Park and should be completed shortly.
- City Administrator Teresa Sidel noted that the 2024 budget has been approved by the city council and includes the Park & Recreation Board's request for 2 pickleball courts in Lyons Park and a new batting cage in Swenson Park. The request for pool funds was not placed in the 2024 budget. Sidel also noted that the city plans to hold a meeting on 9/26 to discuss possible sponsorship for the pickleball courts.

Old Business:

- Swenson Park – The council has placed \$255,000 in the city's 2024 budget to erect a concession/restroom building at Swenson Park. Wagner was in Spearfish last week and looked at the building they erected and provided the Board with a picture and layout for discussion. Their building was purchased through Sourcewell, which is a collective purchasing company that serves government agencies. Sourcewell has several building layouts that the Board can review – staff will send out a link to the Board. Any items purchased off Sourcewell, do not have to be bid by the city since Sourcewell does the bidding process on their end. Discussion was held on state bid laws and how the city can bid a project if we do not purchase through Sourcewell. It was the consensus of the board to review various layouts within the next few weeks so the Board can discuss at their next meeting in October. Once a layout is determined, additional details can be discussed, along with the bid process so we can continue to move forward.

New Business:

- Easements for Bike Trail Going North to Swenson Park: At the last Board meeting, a possible route for a bike trail to Swenson Sports Complex was discussed. Since the HADF owns a lot of the land to the north, it was discussed that we should look at obtaining possible easements for a trail. Until the HADF has a plan for this land, the exact location of a trail will be hard to determine but this is something we want to keep in mind as the area develops and new roads are built.
- Community Garden Plots: Discussion of a community garden was briefly held by the Board at their August meeting. Location, costs, water source, regulations, etc. are a few things that would need to be considered before moving forward with any plan. A partnership with the school or Minnehaha Gardeners Association might be something to explore. This may be an item for consideration on the Park CIP.

- 1-5 Year Priority Plan: The Board noted that items/projects for the 1-5 Year Park Capital Improvement Plan need to be considered at the next Board meeting. Board members are asked to come with a list of items that would like to have considered for the CIP and a proposed timeline for each item. Some things to consider are next phase of bike trail, shade structure for sports complex, concession/restroom building, additional playground equipment in all the parks or at Swenson park, fencing for pickleball, sports complex parking lot, community garden. We should also consider long-range projects such as a new pool.

Agenda Items for Next Meeting:

- Swenson Park Concession/Restroom Building Layout
- Project List for Park 1-5 Year CIP

Adjournment: A motion was made by Mulder, seconded by Tuschen, to adjourn at 7:15pm - all voted yes, motion carried.

I, Teresa Sidel, City Administrator, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes which are on file at Hartford City Hall.