

Yorkville Parks and Recreation Department  
Thursday, January 12, 2017  
6:30 p.m.  
Parks Maintenance Building  
185 Wolf Street, Yorkville, IL

**Call to Order:** Amy Cesich called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Deb Horaz -no; Mark Dilday – no; Amy Cesich – yes; Dan Lane – yes; Gene Wilberg – yes; Sash Dumanovic - yes

**Introduction of City Official and Staff:**

Tim Evans – Director of Parks and Recreation  
Scott Sleezer – Superintendent of Parks  
Shay Remus – Superintendent of Recreation  
Ken Koch – Alderman  
Joel Frieders – Alderman

**Other Guests:** None.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from December 8, 2016 are approved. Motion by Gene Wilberg and seconded by Dan Lane.

**Bills Review:**

**Bill List – January 12, 2017** – Informational purposes.

**Budget Report – November 2016** – Informational purposes.

**Old Business:**

**Recreation Program Facility Discussion** – Tim said at the last meeting, the board looked at drawings and there are additional drawings for the board to look over. On the front page, there is a drawing that Scott did for an example that is connected to Beecher. This gives an idea of how that would work at Beecher for \$250,000-\$300-000.

The city asked for options that are connected to the Beecher Center. The city thinks that would be a good collaboration between the Recreation Department and the seniors. The board asked some questions about the drawings. Another drawing would be connected by the roof, so it would take the south parking lot. Scott said there are some unknowns in that because there is a water main involved. This one would be \$500,000 with some office space.

The next drawings are bigger and this would be about \$750,000 or around there not exact numbers – this would have more storage and 2 gyms. The third would be ideal which is \$1,000,000 bigger offices and two gyms. Tim said we have several designs brought to us and Tim said he is working on some

designs. As a board, we need to work on the financial side. We have \$250,000 and we would like something bigger.

The board needs to make a recommendation to city council and it would help Scott and I to have a recommendation and see what city council says. We are just throwing things around and we need a number to go with to be able to settle in and see what we really want and where. Tim said he would like to ask city council to match the \$250,000 and to see what the response will be. If we want more space, we need to ask city council for more money. Tim asked the board what their thoughts are.

The board asked some more questions about the building drawings and where the building would be located. Amy asked about the surplus in the budget and how much. Tim said there was a surplus, he is not sure the number. Tim said he thinks that it is realistic to have a discussion to match the \$250,000. Tim said he doesn't want to be greedy and matching is a good starting point. Presenting to them what it would include like a gym would be a good thing.

There was a discussion about the size of the gym and what could be held in the facility and how to schedule things. Scott said once we know the funding we have, it will be easier to decide what we want and need and what the cost will be. Sash asked about Beecher being the best site. Scott said not necessarily. Scott said the roof lines are difficult and it is an old building.

Tim said there is an interest with Beecher because it has to be gutted and the HVAC redone and then it can be one thing and doing all of it as one project. Amy said she doesn't really like the Beecher idea because it will be more than \$500,000. Tim said it would help financially for it to be one project. Scott said there could be some hidden benefits with one contractor for both.

Tim said city council will want us to look into it. Amy said maybe we need to ask the seniors their opinion and their feelings on it. Dan said they are lucky to have that building. Amy thinks that they should be included in the conversation. Tim said for now asking for the money is priority. Scott said from there we will have other possibilities.

Amy said that the seniors have their space and it does need to be fixed. The location is good, but if the funds are there, it would work, but if the funding is not there I don't see it working out well. Tim said that he recommends to ask city council to match the funds. The board agrees. Tim said the city has to think about utilities etc. Dan said the city has to invest into the community or people will not move here or go to other communities.

Dan Lane motioned to make a recommendation to city council to match funds of \$250,000 toward the recreation program facility Gene Wilberg seconded. Motion passes unanimously. Amy Cesich – yes; Dan Lane – yes; Gene Wilberg – yes; Sash Dumanovic – yes.

**Riverfront Park and Bristol Bay Grant Update Discussion** – Tim said he sent out an email update on this. Next week there will be additional testing throughout the entire park. Tim said the city wants to make sure that the entire park is safe. The board asked about the results. Tim said it is problem is concentrated to one area.

If the city decides that it is not feasible to put the playground there, we would take half of the parking lot and put it there and expand parking where the playground would have gone. For the businesses, it would be great. The board asked several different questions about that change.

Tim said it would be nice for the businesses to have the playground closer. The city will be doing additional testing before the playground is installed. Because this has put the city behind, Bristol Bay has become our priority.

The city has engineers working on getting the skate park done. We are planning to hold a final meeting at the end of February to get any comments from the public. We have some designs from a previous meeting two to three years ago. We would like to have the skate park by July or August. Scott's staff will be working on all the other amenities this summer there.

Tim said that Bristol Bay needs to get finished, so that we don't have to ask for another extension since we have to ask for one for Riverfront Park. Gene asked about private properties on Hydraulic for future plans. Tim said he cannot answer that, he would have to talk to the city administrator. Tim said there will be a lot more parking added.

The board discussed what property was private property and what is city property. Tim said the city is hoping to pave everything that they own. Gene said he thinks in the long term this is the most valuable real estate in Yorkville and should not just be for parking lots.

The board discussed different options with riverfront and parking issues or options. Gene asked about the trends and how businesses are being used at the Riverfront. Tim said they all pay their bills every month. Tim said he will reach out to the businesses and ask them. Some of the businesses have reached out to how we can partner together. Tim said it is definitely something that we can work on in the future.

**New Business:**

**Youth Baseball Field Usage Agreements** – Tim said this is similar to last year not any changes. Tim said the city will not be maintaining the fields every day. The board asked about how that worked out. Scott said there were some issues, but they were worked out. It helped them see the money and time that the city put into the fields.

Scott said they asked about additional clay for the fields and Scott said that the city doesn't have the funds. Scott said that the maintenance is not as good as the city does it. The board asked about over time how that will work. Scott said time will tell. Amy asked can the city do this one more year and then look at the fields and make an evaluation. Scott said they have painted some dugouts and other maintenance and have done a nice job overall.

Tim said there were benefits taking a burden of Scott's staff. The maintenance fell on them. Amy asked how much the city charged when we maintained the fields. Scott said around \$12,000-\$15,000. Scott said a load of clay is \$600 and 19 fields. Amy would like to evaluate this next year. Tim said the city is still down a couple employees.

Tim said maintaining these fields will take another employee. Scott said the city has been honest with them about what the city would do and not do. Shay said that the parks staff is professional and the work they are doing is working out fine. Scott said the clay will have to be added eventually. The board asked about insurance and waivers. Tim said he works with the insurance agent for the city and he contacts them and takes care of those things.

Motion to approve the Youth Baseball Field Usage Agreements 2017 made by Sash Dumanovic and Dan Lane seconded. Unanimously approved.

**Parks Lawn Mower Purchase** – Tim said Scott is at a point he needs a new mower. Tim said at the beginning of the year the city realized that we would need to buy this and they were watching the budget. Scott said the one the city has is 10 years old, which is old for a mower. Scott said it was overheating and the city put \$3,000 into it and it didn't solve the problem. Scott said we are keeping the mower for parts and tires.

Scott said there is a warranty for two years and so many hours. Scott said this is an 11 foot mower and large. The mower will be brand new and the state negotiates the contract for a better price. Scott said there are 250 acres that the city mows. The board discussed contracting mowing out. Scott said the quality is not as good and you will spend more.

Motion to approve the new parks lawn mower for \$53,908.00 made by Gene Wilberg and seconded by Sash Dumanovic. Motion unanimously approved.

**Yak Shack License Extension** – Tim said Yak Shack contacted the city to ask about a rent reduction because the insurance rates are higher than he expected. He is contacting the city's insurance agent to review the plans and see what things he has to cover and see if things can be adjusted. If it comes in that, he has to stay at that level, he will want to adjust the rent, which Tim said he is comfortable with because he is paying more than the others.

Tim said his contract comes for renewal at the end of March. Amy asked if the board can table this item until next month. Amy said she would like to discuss it when we have all the information. The insurance is a \$4,000-\$5,000 increase. Tim said he does not know all the details, but the city's insurance agent is helping him at this time. Tim said he is in an active business, so his insurance will be higher and the city's requirements will be higher in case someone was injured.

City council will ultimately have to approve this. Amy said this cannot be voted on this tonight. Tim said he will bring this back next month.

**Reports:**

**Parks** – Scott said the city put up a nice wood fence at the Rec Building for the preschool, which made it nicer and safer. The ice rink has been installed at Riverfront and hopefully the weather will cooperate and it will get used more. Scott said now that the employees are union, the city has been able to get them some training at the union facility. They learn welding and paving etc.

Scott said they will return as better employees and motivated and true professionals. Scott said the Christmas decorations will be done different for next year.

**Recreation** – Preschool started registration in December and at that time, there were 18 kids currently enrolled for next year. Open registration started January 9<sup>th</sup> and we are up to 25 kids for the preschool. The 3 year old program is almost full from the Ready Set Go program. Ready Set Go all four classes are full and there are waiting lists for those.

Basketball started practices in December and we have been working with the school system and we have keys for all the coaches so they have access to the buildings. Pictures are scheduled this Friday for basketball and the first games are this weekend. The city had a freelance photographer come out and take some pictures of some of our events, which was a nice thing that is new. The parade did grow this year and hopefully that will continue.

Shay said she is finalizing all the 2017 special events coming up. The city has 25 events throughout the year.

**Additional Business:** There was a discussion about the bees and how that is going. Dan asked about day camps and where they could be held.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. Motion by Sash and seconded Gene by . Meeting adjourned.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:

Lisa Godwin

Minute Taker