

CITY OF COLUMBUS  
PARK BOARD MEETING  
INTERACTIVE MEETING FORMAT  
STATUTES SECTION 13D.021  
09-17-2024

The 09-17-2024 Park Board meeting for the City of Columbus was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chair Brad Norling at the City of Columbus City Hall. Present were Board members Steven Ray and Kris King.

City Council Liaison Ron Hanegraaf and City Administrator Jack Davis were also present.

Absent: Bob Bodene and Andrea Messina.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

Norling requested to remove the “Removal of parking Lot Timbers” for the agenda as this is not a project priority. King agreed.

**Motion** by Ray to approve Park Board agenda for 09-17-2024 as amended.

**Second** by King.

Roll call vote: King -aye; Norling – aye; and Ray – aye.

All in favor, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PARK BOARD MINUTES:

The July 17, 2024 minutes are not available at this time and will be tabled until the next meeting, November 19<sup>th</sup>, for approval.

2024 PROJECT DISCUSSION

BUDGET:

**Park Lighting:** Norling requested to approve the revised lighting quote dated August 5, 2024 that Windingstad provided, which involved moving one light and adding one light to the park parking lot on 165th Ave. for a cost of \$2,322.00.

**Motion** by Norling to recommend the council to approve the expenditure of moving one light from Kettle River Blvd. and adding an additional light to the two north parking lots on 165<sup>th</sup>.

**Second** by King.

Roll call vote: Ray – aye; King -aye; Norling – aye.

All in favor, motion carried.

**Tennis Court Repair:** Norling stated there is some funding money set aside; however, the board needs to decide which plan needs to be considered. King added the board needs to allow for more discussion including other options and quotes. King agreed that going out for bids early in the year tends to achieve better pricing. She added that she has seen tennis played on both courts as well as pickleball on both courts but does not feel there is enough room or funding to have two courts for each play. Norling shared that working within the means of the budget, he feels a multi-purpose court meets the needs. Ray inputted that it would be best to keep the same footprint stripping both courts with tennis and pickleball, otherwise additional fencing would need to be installed if the project involved one court of each.

**Tree Status:** Norling noted that there are a number of trees that need attention in regard to disease and safety. The consensus of the board was to have Windingstad provide them with a quote. King inquired as to what the budget was remaining for the tree project. Davis noted that there is potentially \$18,000-\$20,000.00 available. King added that the timing of winter is a good time for this project.

DISCUSSION:

**Joint City Council Meeting Review:** Norling felt that it was a positive meeting making the point that the board needs a viable long-term funding plan in place. \$400,000.00 of projects were discussed and that to keep the park up to date and as is not noting any projects that need funding that would be included in the park master plan. King added that she felt that the meeting helped make the council aware of the park board's financial funds available to deal with and the uncertainty of any additional funds from developments. Norling stated that it essential to build an "escrow" to become financially healthy to be able to pay for the upcoming needed expenditures. It was noted that the existing park equipment has a life cycle, and it should have been previously planned for and funds set aside for replacement and to put forth for matching grant money.

**Park Master Plan:** Norling mentioned the previous park masterplan subcommittee committee meeting mostly discussed budget items with administrator Davis and did not have the opportunity to dig into the master plan itself at this time. Davis reported that Hahn, planning and zoning technician, will be attending the next meeting to deliver an update. Davis added that the goal was to have a plan by mid-2025. Hanegraaf and King mentioned that it would be advantageous to have Senator Kreun attend a joint city council/park board meeting to discuss grant funding and possible use of DNR land for trails.

**Holiday Lights:** Norling stated that this would be a nice holiday esthetic to the park with not a lot of funding involved. The decision was to place lights around the picnic pavilion and set by a timer. Hanegraaf stated that he has a source for some metal trees and that lights could be placed on them as well. Norling states that they start out small and see what the response is. He is also concerned about damage to the decorations. King and Hanegraaf will research lighting options.

**Motion** by Norling to allocate up to \$500.00 for holiday lighting in the picnic pavilion area and city hall.

**Second** by Ray

Roll call vote: Ray – aye; King -aye; Norling – aye.

All in favor, motion carried.

**Eagle Scout Project Review:** Norling commented that Eagle Scout Matthew Magastad did a very nice job on his project planting trees. Davis showed the members options of plaque designs to recognize the two Eagle Scout projects that were completed in the park.

**Park Board Members Open Discussion:** Ray inquired about the status of the dugout covers. Hanegraaf stated they were invited to this meeting to further discuss funding and stated he will reach out to President Melissa again. King added it is a safety issue to continue to consider funding sources.

NEXT MEETING:

The next scheduled park board meeting is Tuesday, November 19, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

ADJORN:

**Motion** made by Norling to adjourn.

**Second** by Ray.

Roll call vote: Ray – aye; King – aye; Norling – aye.

All in favor, motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Lorie Spangler, Deputy Clerk