

**BELLE PLAINE PARK BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 22, 2019**

1. CALL TO ORDER. 1.1. Roll Call.

The Belle Plaine Park Board met in Regular Session on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at City Hall, 218 North Meridian Street, Belle Plaine, MN. Commissioner Rachel Kelm called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM with Commissioners Liann Hanson and Nick Jensen present. Commissioners Chris Kehr and Ryan Herrmann were not present.

Also present were Council Liaisons Ben Stier, Cary Coop and City Administrator Meyer. In the audience were Community Services Director Chevalier, Community Services Coordinator Saulsbury and Belle Plaine School District Communications Director Chelsea Hutchinson.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

MOTION by Council Liaison Coop, second by Commissioner Hanson, to approve the agenda as presented. ALL VOTE AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES. 3.1. Regular Session Minutes of December 17, 2018.

MOTION by Council Liaison Coop, second by Commissioner Jensen, to approve the Regular Session Minutes of December 17, 2018. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

4. TREASURERS REPORT. 4.1. Park Fund 205 Budget Update.

MOTION by Council Liaison Coop, second by Commissioner Hanson to accept the Treasurers Report. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

5. BUSINESS.

5.1. Resolution Supporting Beautiful Prairie Trail Looping Grant Application to SMSC Scott County Trail Grant Program and Providing Local Match.

City Administrator Meyer explained the City was notified of grant funds available through SMSC Scott County Trail Grant Program with Local match. The City is requesting a proposed connection supporting Beautiful Prairie Trail Loop. Council Liaison Coop inquired if the trail going past Emma's was correct. Meyer confirmed the trail going past Emma's and recognizes there may be some expense however committees believe this to be a better route, noting when Haralson gets developed it will also contain a connection. Commissioner Hanson inquired on what standards are not met for the application. Community Development Director Smith Strack explained the City meets the first two criteria and staff believe a strong argument can be made for the connection to the Cities Natural Areas.

MOTION by Council Liaison Coop, second by Commissioner Hanson to approve Resolution Supporting Beautiful Prairie Trail Looping Grant Application to SMSC Scott County Trail Grant Program and Providing Local Match. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

5.2. Jane Properties Subdivision Concept Plan.

Community Development Director Smith Strack explained Jane Properties Subdivision is a Conventional non-residential plat approximately 32 acres recently annexed into the City. Smith Strack continued the Park Board is to provide input on park fee in lieu of land dedication and locations of trails/sidewalk. Smith Strack explained in 2017 the City Council adopted the fee schedule which required 10% of the estimated market value at the time of platting. Smith Strack explained staff requested the market value from the

county for 2018 and 2017 payable tax years. Smith Strack noted the estimated parkland dedication fee is roughly \$100,000.00 and with an option to pay in thirds over time.

Council Liaison Coop stated his believe that the estimated amount is steep. Coop suggested a requirement of trail and sidewalk on both sides of Hickory Blvd and also going North. Coop suggested taking the price of the sidewalk/trail and reduce the park fee by the cost of the trails. Coop noted in town employees often use the trail/sidewalk system to bike/walk to work. City Administrator Meyer clarified Coops recommendation of installation of trail system addition with consideration of offsetting park fees. Nate Myhra of Bolton and Menk agreed he and the property owner like the consideration of trails as an off set of the dedication fee. Commissioner Kelm inquired if staff had an estimate for the trails. Meyer explained staff did not at this time. Commissioner Hanson expressed her concern with the board being consistent noting Council Liaison Coop advocating for parks in underserved areas of the community and frustration with lack of funding. Council Liaison Coop explained making an exception in this case as a way to spark a development starting point. Coop noted all trails need to start somewhere and by acquiring the trail/sidewalk now as development continues the sidewalk/trails can be added to.

MOTION by Council Liaison Coop, second by Council Liaison Stier to: A. be no parkland dedication and 2. Staff work with developers on trails/sidewalks to offset some park fees. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

5.3. Pickle ball Discussion: Quotes and Commissioner Stier Update.

City Administrator Meyer explained the Public Works Committees recommendation is to construct a concrete base and paint textured acrylic. Meyer explained Public Works will do the cement work for an estimated cost of \$10,000.00 and staff received an acrylic quote from C& H Sport Surfaces, Inc. in the amount of \$35,000.00 for two courts. Meyer also noted after looking at the two options it was the recommendation to place the pickle ball court at Chatfield Park.

Council Liaison Stier inquired if the surface is the same as tennis courts and the longevity of life. City Administrator Meyer explained it is a different textured surface. Meyer explained a 15 year warranty before resurfacing. Commissioner Hanson inquired how the Volleyball Court at the other park will be addressed if no pickle ball court will be placed there. Meyer explained the Century Park Sand Volleyball issue will still need to be addressed. Kelm noted concern with the removal of all three sand volleyball courts. Meyer suggested condensing to one court. Council Liaison Stier explained in talking with community members the courts are not being used. Community Services Director Chevalier explained in the past three years Community Education has been actively trying to grow pickle ball in the community. Chevalier noted eight outdoor courts are currently open to the public during the summer averaging 7-8 players per night. Belle Plaine School Districts Communications Director Hutchinson, Community Services Coordinator Saulsbury and Chevalier explained the current programing for pickle ball. Council Liaison Stier explained he did a facebook poll where he received over a hundred confirmations noting most responses are from the retired community. Chevalier explained Jordan's large retiree turnout for pickle ball is largely due to draw of their Community Center noting other indoor actives can also be done like walking and coffee. It was the recommendation of Hutchinson, Saulsbury and Chevalier to hold off on development until the pickle ball community has grown. Stier addressed his concern of the tennis court not being easily accessible and would prefer to see on exclusive court for pickle ball. Council Liaison Coop explained in the interest of compromise move forward with one court as all activities have ebbs and flows and the removal of all three courts only to reconstruct a few years down the road is not economical. Coop suggested in addition to Community Services current methods of communication using the Newspaper and the cable channel as other forms of communication for pickle ball may be helpful. Coop also suggested staff look at Century Park removing both sand volleyball courts and make into a pickle ball & basketball court solving the problem of blowing sand. Stier requested staff get a quote for one court verses two courts to see if any savings. Stier requested staff quote for a fenced area around the pickle ball court with acrylic painting and Basketball court for options to be reviewed.

5.4. Administrator Update.

City Administrator Meyer explained attached is an email from the DNR explaining the proposed rest area for canoes would need to be implemented and maintained by the City of Belle Plaine. Meyer explained the possible access issues that would need to be addressed. Meyer also explained during the February meeting her plans for bringing forward past park projects that were not done for lack of funding to prioritize with discussion on the Park Boards Role.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.

6.1. Commissioner Comments.

No comments were made.

6.2. Upcoming Meetings.

1. Next Regular Meeting, 5:00 PM, Tuesday, February 19, 2019.

Commissioners were reminded of upcoming meetings as listed.

7. Adjourn.

MOTION by Council Liaison Stier, second by Commissioner Jensen to adjourn at 5:52 PM. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee Eyrich
Recording Secretary