

MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE OF THE VILLAGE OF METTAWA, ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE HOUR OF 7:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2016, IN THE MAPLE BOARDROOM OF THE HILTON GARDEN INN HOTEL, 26225 N. RIVERWOODS BOULEVARD, METTAWA, ILLINOIS.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Towne called the meeting to order at approximately 7:19pm.

B. ROLL CALL

Upon a call of the roll, the following persons were:

Present: Chairman Towne, Member Sheldon and Member Armstrong

Absent: None

Also present: Bob Irvin, Village Administrator; Scott Anderson, Village Engineer; Denis Bohm, Jan Pink, Village Trustee; Colleen Liberacki, Deputy Village Clerk.

Chairman Towne declared a quorum present.

C. Approval of minutes from November 11, 2015.

Chairman Towne moved to accept the minutes of November 11, 2015 as presented, and Member Sheldon seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

D. CONSIDERATION OF WRD PROPOSAL FOR OPEN SPACE PLANNING

Chairman Towne presented proposal for \$4,250 for the open space design planning for Whippoorwill Park and Oasis Park, and noted that Whippoorwill Park is further along in the process than Oasis Park. Member Armstrong thought that Oasis Park should be a priority and urged that they work on it first, as it needs to be cleaned up and the trails needed attention. Chairman Towne suggested that if they wanted to, they could elect to focus on Oasis Park and just pay approximately ½ of the proposal price, as the trails were going out to bid soon.

Bob Irvin noted that in all steps proposed for both parks, phasing could take a number of years and could not commit to the dollars estimated now. He suggested that WRD could do both designs at the same time and the Village could choose which to focus on first, as the mobilization cost would be charged once for both parks if done at the same time. Member Sheldon thought it was time to start thinking forward, and that the amount of money proposed had been spent easily on other things in the past and this was a small cost in comparison. She wanted to show the village a completed project to propel the progress forward, to which Member Armstrong agreed. Denis Bohm noted that there was an abundance of wild plants popping up and cautioned against widespread herbiciding. Chairman Towne thought it was best initiated after the snow was gone, but Member Armstrong reminded those present that WRD had already become familiar with the property prior to the snows and he would like this project to move sooner and would like to see a completion date.

It was moved by Member Sheldon, and seconded by Member Armstrong, to recommend to the Village Board that they accept the WRD bid for \$4,250 for open

space planning (develop plans & stewardship documents to formulate the long term vision) of the Whippoorwill and Oasis Parks. The motion was carried.

E. UPDATE ON BIDDING OF ROUTE 60 TRAIL EXTENSION AND OASIS PARK TRAIL RELOCATION

Chairman Towne reported that he had a meeting with the Viacom people, who put in the fiber optic cables (heading towards Waukegan Rd and into Waukegan) without acquiring a permit from the village. He noted their conflict with the village's storm sewer project and that the Village is still trying to get the trails bid on, which Viacom will pay for. Scott Anderson reported that this will go out for bid soon, as he is waiting to hear back from the state and the state has reported receiving and reviewing the documents from the Village, but will not commit to a date.

F. DISCUSSION OF ITEMS FOR FY 2016-27 BUDGET

Bob Irvin reported that the \$50K for Whippoorwill Park line item had not been spent and will remain as a placeholder, since they are still working on the open lands plan. Chairman Towne thought it was acceptable to leave the budget plan as is. Bob Irvin reminded the members that for Bradley/Riverwoods Road, the 2016 and 2017 TallGrass contract commitment was \$2,760 and \$2,070 respectively. Chairman Towne felt that the \$1K paid for cutting the brush over at the church property was a good value. Bob Irvin stated that he would have the 2016/2017 budget draft ready for the Village Board meeting on Tuesday.

G. ANY OTHER ITEMS THAT MAY APPEAR BEFORE THE COMMITTEE FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TO THE VILLAGE BOARD.

Denis Bohm inquired about the eradication status of the small stand of buckthorn at the Whippoorwill Park trails, to which Chairman Towne replied to put it on the task list, and inquired if MOLA could handle this task. Member Sheldon and Denis Bohm thought they could.

H. ADJOURNMENT

With no further items discussed, it was moved by Member Armstrong to adjourn the meeting at 7:44pm, seconded by Member Sheldon. The motion was carried.

Colleen Liberacki, Deputy Clerk

This document is subject to correction as noted on next meeting's minutes.