

Parks, Recreation and Public Property Committee
Thursday, September 6, 2018

The meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Public Property Committee was called to Order by Chairman Robert Jackson Jr.

Committee members present were Johnathan Hyde.

The following members were present: Councilman Jim Bair, Councilman Terry Green, Mayor David Wessels, and Borough Manager Daniel Varner.

Richard King took the minutes of the meeting.

Recognize guest for public comments:

Ed Tos mentioned that the Parks & Recreation Commission did not have a meeting this month..

Ed Tos stated that the commission will be working on the strategic plan according to Borough Ordinance.

Mayors Report:

Mayor Wessels asked how the Earth Benches turned out. Robert Jackson said that they turned out good.

Mayor Wessels stated that the Gateway Conservatory will be coming in and tearing out the plants and replanting at the Gateway Garden. He said we need some volunteers to help. He also mentioned that we need to schedule now so we can do this in October.

Old Business:

Robert Jackson asked about the splash pad design if it was done. Dan Varner said that it was not done and it will probably be done next week.

Robert Jackson asked if there was anything that he needed to do with the closing of the pool. Dan Varner mentioned that with the weather (heat) that some of the managers wanted to open the pool after school. He also said that this week will be it. Dan Varner mentioned that Cisney & O'Donnell will be in to do some repairs then he will have the inmates come in to put the cover on. Dan said that he will have Cisney & O'Donnell install the Rockwall. He mentioned how great the obstacle course was. Dan stated that probably around the 1st of October, we will drain down the pool, winterize it, and have the filters and pumps repaired. It was mentioned that we should compensate Chris Stevens a monetary amount for our appreciation for him doing work down at the pool everyday this summer.

It was asked how the part time maintenance crew worked out this year. Dan said that the crew worked out great and did a good job. The maintenance department is mowing the parks on Friday's if not raining.

Robert Jackson asked when we should be advertising for part time help next year. Dan Varner said that we should do this in March or April. Dan said that we go through Career Link Job Services and this gives us protection, they do the advertising and then they will give us the applications.

Jim Bair asked if there was something that we could do with the parking situation at Portstown Park and if we could use the other side. Dan Varner mentioned that this was a PennDot right of way and we cannot. It was suggested about the possibility of opening the gate for them to park.

Dan Varner mentioned that he had the carpets cleaned and brought in some guys to work on the carpet, have tiles removed and replaced. He said that back in the Police department the one bathroom, needs to have some repairs. He also mentioned that we are having some electrical light issues.

Dan Varner mentioned that in the Highlands Development, we should think about taking over the detention ponds in the Highlands Development since it deals with Stormwater issues. Dan will talk to Solicitor Wilson about this and maybe draw up something to this effect. Robert Jackson mentioned that there are residents there that have riding lawn mowers that maybe could get 6 to 10 volunteers to mow the common areas.

Dan Varner spoke on the 2015 Borough Ordinance, prohibits hunting on Flag Pole using fire arms. This ordinance included bow and arrow as a firearm. He said that there is a problem with an over population of deer and they need to be controlled. He mentioned that he will do some research and may be suggesting changes to the ordinance so you can hunt with a bow and arrow only. Jim Bair said that maybe we could set up rules and do a permit where they can hunt.

Dan Varner spoke about the trees on Flag Pole Hill and how we did a select cut to make things healthier. He said this needs done again and that we need to hire someone like Randy Fickes to mark the trees to cut to make it healthier.

Dan Varner mentioned that he had Tom's Tree Service look at two trees in Portstown Park by the Pavilion that he thought would need to come down. Tom told Dan that the trees are still good, but needed trimmed and that they had received too much water and that is why they look the way they do. Dan said that he told Tom's Tree Service to go ahead and trim the trees.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.