



**REGULAR PARK BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2023 @ 6:00 PM
MGC COMMISSION CHAMBERS
201 WEST WATER STREET, PIQUA, OHIO 45356**

City of Piqua Park Board met at 6:00 P.M. in the Municipal Government Complex Commission Chambers located at 201 W. Water Street.

Roll Call as follows: Board Members Present: Eddie Harvey, Marcia Garrett, Natalie Young, Cathy Oda and Phil Moyer. City Commission Representative Present: Cindy Pearson. Staff Present: Amy Welker and Melissa Kinney.

CALL TO ORDER

Amy Welker called the meeting to order at 6 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Cindy Pearson moved for approval of the Meeting Minutes from the November 16, 2022 Park Board Meeting; motion was seconded by Cathy Oda. Motion carried unanimously; Meeting Minutes approved.

ELECTIONS

Amy Welker announced the resignations of Nolan Campbell due to being away for college and Billie Jo Simmons due to health issues. To fill the position of Chairperson, a motion was made to nominate Phil Moyer; the motion carried unanimously.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Amy Welker expressed that the City needs to have a mechanism in which to recognize volunteers. She would like for the Park Board to organize this effort and use this opportunity to thank all volunteers, board members, local businesses, etc. who contribute to the City. Cathy Oda offered to send out Thank You notes to volunteers after each event. Recognition on the City's website and social media pages, along with announcements at City Commission Meetings will also be added in an effort to thank volunteers. Amy & Melissa will gather a list of volunteers, board members, committee members, etc. to provide at the next City Commission Meeting.

ODOT SIGNS

Amy Welker disbursed a brochure from ODOT detailing the 2023 State & US Bike Route Signage Project. Piqua is participating in this program, and it includes 14 locations locally. The signage will be helpful to users of the bike path.

WORKPLAN

Amy Welker handed out a copy of the 2023 Parks Task Workplan for 2023. She explained how this helps her and the Parks staff to stay task-oriented and organized. Although it was impossible to complete every task in 2022, she is pleased with the progress made in the Piqua parks. Last year was good for gathering and providing data so that we know going forward what areas to focus on and how to tell the Parks' story. The focus this Spring will be the parking lots at Pitsenbarger, as well as fencing and signage in all the parks. Marcia asked for a status on the tennis courts. There is a drainage issue under the courts, so a bid came at \$130,000. We are getting another opinion as to how to fix this problem. Eddie Harvey inquired as to the status of the O to I Bridge assessment & the Hance Pavilion assessment. Amy said that both assessments are due back very soon and that these will be shared with the board. Amy asked that the Hance assessment include what would be the minimum required to get it open, as the renovation cost was \$1.2 million before. It is also not ADA compliant and in poor condition. One option for more use might be to level the sloped floor.

STAFFING UPDATE

Amy Welker announced that she has filled the Working Supervisor position with Marcus Jones. He was promoted to manage the day to day operations in Parks. She also was approved to add a 5th position in Parks this year, as well as 6 seasonal workers for the Summer months.

BUDGET STATUS

Amy Welker passed out the Parks Budget Status Report as of 1/31/2023. She went through some of the line items in detail, such as Lock 9 funds and transfer of funds from the General fund. She reviewed the breakdown of expenses and contractual services as well. Cindy Pearson said that the CIP will be updated soon and the "wish list" will be modified. Amy spoke about some of the challenges with the Lock 9 project, such as not receiving bids for the entire project. There

is a new RFQ out now due back soon. Phil asked if the amphitheater is still in the design plan, which it is as of now. Cindy asked about a splash pad being in the plan still. It is for now but depends on having enough space in the design. Other design elements may be scaled back as well to save money.

HYDRAULIC CANAL & DAM SAFETY PROJECT

Phil regularly attends these meetings, and Cathy is on this committee. Both said that there are no updates right now but will keep us posted of any new information.

REPORT TO CITY COMMISSION

Amy reminded the board that the Annual Park Board Report will be presented at the next Commission Meeting on 2/7/2023. In order to follow the Piqua Charter, Amy worked with Nolan on this report to provide a recap of what the Park Board accomplished in 2022. A copy of this report was given out to each member.

STAFF REPORT

Amy announced that the Sports Leagues' leases will be renewed soon. These will be presented in the 2/21/2023 City Commission Meeting. She wants to be more diligent about determining who is responsible for what in the future. There has been a challenge obtaining documents from certain groups as well.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Natalie Young asked for a status update on the baseball league. Amy said that she is in contact with the new President. Amy also told the board that the group Friends of Piqua Parks is renovating the concession area of the baseball field at Pitsenbarger. They are putting in a new picnic shelter that should be completed this Spring. The City is also contributing with new concrete, along with grant money and a partnership with Hartzell. Eddie suggested putting in a splash pad at Pitsenbarger Park where the pool was located or at Fountain Park using ODNR grant money.

ADJOURNMENT

Cathy Oda moved for adjournment of the meeting; motion was seconded by Marcia Garrett. Motion carried unanimously. The Park Board Meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm.