

MEETING MINUTES

RECORDED BY: Melonie Trang

MEETING PURPOSE: PRC Board Meeting

MEETING DATE February 8, 2017
AND LOCATION: Community Center



ATTENDEES: PRC Board Members:

Rick DeVore, Tom Rupsis, Lew Morris, Rich Lorenze, Jim Ronquillo, Chuck Platt, Tim Warburton

PRPL Staff Members:

Mike Whitaker, Director
Kory Thomson, Recreation Superintendent
Jon Thompson, Park Superintendent
Lee Stadtmiller, Cemetery Superintendent
Mark Jarvis, Park Planner

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Rick DeVore called the meeting to order at 11:30 am

A. INTRODUCTIONS

Tim Warburton; new member of the Park Board

Phone Conference with Alicia Stickney and Doug Marton; representatives of the Natural Resource Damage Program

B. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Exxon Oil Spill Settlement-added to Old Business

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the January 11, 2017 minutes. Board member Lew Morris approved. Board member Rich Lorenz seconded. On a voice vote, all were in favor and the motion passed.

II. DIRECTORS REPORT – Michael Whitaker

Michael informed the board on the following items:

- Bids for the Rose bathhouse came in high. Staff has decided to recommend to Council to reject all bids and re-look at doing some adjustments to the design to lower costs.
- There will be a public meeting on March 7th to discuss a cell tower at Terry Park. The meeting will be held at the Fire Station.
- Lampman Park will be going before City Council soon to discuss not selling the park property and using it for more sports fields.

III. PUBLIC/BOARD COMMENT

None

VI. NEW BUSINESS

No new business

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Exxon Oil Spill Settlement:

Staff and board had a phone conference with Natural Resource Damage Program representatives Alicia Stickney and Doug Marton.

Alicia gave an update on the current settlement between Federal/State and Exxon Mobil.

- Settlement will be for 12 million. \$9.5 million will be used for projects on the Yellowstone River. \$2.4 million will be used on recreation use in the community.
- Project have to be proposed where the oil injury was done.
- An ad-hoc committee will be formed this spring to discuss how the \$2.4 will be distributed. There will be about a 4-hour meeting once a month for 4 months. The meetings will be held in the Billings area.
- The ad-hoc committee will need a representative from the Parks and Recreation Board. Board member Jim Ronquillo offered to be on the committee. Rick approved for Jim to be on the committee and work along with Jon Thompson, since he has been working with Ms. Stickney and Mr. Marton on this settlement.
- Once a plan has been created, it will be sent to the governor.
- A draft of that plan will also go before the public to get residents input.

B. 5-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP):

Below is the list of staff recommended projects that were pushed back/delayed so the department could fund the spray ground at South and the bathhouse at Rose due to the 2016 fire:

- Resurface tennis and basketball courts at South and Gorham (\$110,000)
- Replace manual irrigation system to an automated system and make it accessibility compliant at Poly Vista (\$375,000)
- Install a public-address system at South and Rose pool (\$25,000)
- Replace or remodel 4 restrooms located at Burlington, Centennial, Poly Vista and Coulson (\$325,000)
- Replace playground at Ponderosa Park (\$150,000)
- Automate irrigation systems at Gorham, Ponderosa, and Evergreen Park (\$300,000)
- Major structural repairs on the east and south maintenance shops (\$100,000)
- Park roads & parking areas repairs Phase 1 (\$320,000)
- Replace the playground at Rose Park (\$270,000)
- Additional funding for Rose pool operations and bathhouse (\$560,000)

Board member Jim Ronquillo made a motion to recommend to City Council the following projects be approved in FY18 CIP and increasing this year's amount from \$2 million to \$2.5 for one year;

- Resurface tennis and basketball courts at South and Gorham
- Install a public-address system at South and Rose pool
- Replace or remodel 4 restrooms located at Burlington, Centennial, Poly Vista and Coulson
- Major structural repairs on the east and south maintenance shops
- Park roads & parking areas repairs Phase 1
- Replace the playground at Rose Park
- Additional funding for Rose pool operations and bathhouse

Board member Lew Morris seconded. On a voice vote, all were in favor and the motion passed.

The CIP should be going before City Council on January 23rd.

C. Update on Projects That Are Underway:

Michael gave an update on current projects underway.

- Yellowstone Kelly Interpretative site construction project has been suspended due to weather.
- The contract for South Park Sprayground has been awarded.
- Veterans automated irrigation project is about 90% complete.
- Waiting on the LWCF grant funding before moving forward on the playground equipment for Hawthorne Park.
- Moving forward on the Poly Vista master plan.
- Optimist Park plan is complete and has been approved by City Council.
- The new kiosk for Swords park will be installed when the weather breaks.
- Mustangs agreement is still on-going. There is a council sub-committee that is reviewing the agreement.
- The Amend Park agreement will be going before City Council in the next few weeks for approval.

VII. DIVISION UPDATES:

A. Recreation Division-Recreation Superintendent Kory Thomson:

In addition to his report, Kory mentioned that his staff is doing a great job with winter programs. He said the summer brochure is due in March. They have about 80 pages to put together. He mentioned that staff has been out in the community getting the word out on programs and seasonal jobs. He said there is a lot of interest with the senior computer program class that is being offered. It teaches the basic fundamentals.

B. Park/Urban Forestry Division-Park Superintendent Jon Thompson:

In addition to his report, Jon said staff has been doing a lot of snow removal this

last month. It has been a long going process. He said that his forestry staff have been busy trimming trees in several of our parks.

C. Park Planning Division-Park Planner Mark Jarvis:

No additions to his report.

D. Volunteer Coordinator's Report-Chris Waite:

No additions to his report.

E. Cemetery Division-Cemetery Superintendent Lee Stadtmiller:

No additions to his report.

VIII. AJOURNMENT - 1:18 pm