

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Miears called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM in the Commission Room of the Maple Grove Center, Osborn MetroPark, Huron, Ohio. (via Zoom)

ROLL CALL

Park Commissioners Present: James “Don” Miears, Chairperson
 Troy Wisehart, Vice Chairperson
 Margaret Murray, Vice Chairperson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Comm. Miears was absent from the March meeting and Comm. Wisehart was absent from the April meeting, and therefore those minutes could not be approved. So, both minutes were presented for approval.

- (1) Commissioner Wisehart moved to waive the reading and approve the draft minutes of the March 10, 2021 meeting.
 Second: Commissioner Murray
 Action: Motion carried unanimously with two affirmative votes.

- (2) Commissioner Murray moved to waive the reading and approve the draft minutes of the April 14, 2021 meeting.
 Second: Commissioner Miears
 Action: Motion carried unanimously with two affirmative votes.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

April Fund Activity Summary, Citizens Bank Checking Account Reconciliation, Citizens Bank MMIA Reconciliation:

Members of the Park Commission had received copies of these reports. Ms. Price stated that we had a cash balance of \$5,231,195.00 at the end of April. She stated that Erie MetroParks received the Homestead Rollback payment for the first half of the year.

(3) Resolution 2021-10: May Schedule of Payables

Ms. Price distributed copies of the Schedule of Payables via email. She stated that the payables are a little higher due to the following purchases: a 2021 Ford F250 pickup truck for \$25,046.56 and a landscape rake attachment for the Bobcat for \$5,895 (which were both previously approved

under the Equipment Replacement Schedule for 2021) and for our PEP (Liability) Insurance renewal for \$50,441.00.

Comm. Miers questioned the price of the landscape rake, seemed high. Ms. Price stated that three quotes were obtained and Mr. Malone, Park Manager, added that it is more than just a 3 point pull behind rake, it is a hydraulic attachment that goes on the front of the Bobcat, it also brings up rocks and conditions the soil.

Comm. Miers asked about the bill for \$390 for internet service, was that monthly or annually. Ms. Price responded that we pay monthly, and he asked why it was so high. Ms. Bowman-Moore added that it is for service to two buildings and that currently Buckeye Broadband is the only provider in the area, and currently have a monopoly on the market.

Comm. Miers inquired as to what the payment to Adobe Creative Cloud for \$599.88 was. Ms. Price explained that it was for annual renewal for our marketing software.

Commissioner Murray moved to approve Resolution 2021-10 Schedule of Payables as presented.

Second: Commissioner Wisheart

Action: Motion carried unanimously with three affirmative votes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob Eirons from Firelands Area Pickleball Association wished to address the Board. Ms. Bowman-Moore stated that the fence company showed up to resume the fence work and Erie MetroParks will be installing the net posts tomorrow. Mr. Eirons stated that they surveyed their 200+ members and approximately 100 responded and they plan to play at the EMP courts all summer. They anticipate a lot of activity. He is proposing that to meet that demand, they are asking if it is ok to put down masking tape on the tennis courts daily from 8am-12 noon, to have additional courts to use. They are also looking into having lessons and open play in the evenings to service the younger population that works during the day. Comm. Murray asked if that was the same tape material that they are using at Sports Force. Mr. Eirons answered that it is not, as that material is intended for longer use and they did not want to leave a residue on the tennis courts. Discussion ensued and the Board agree to allow Ms. Bowman-Moore to work out the details of the taping with Mr. Eirons.

Ron Cull, Pam Crosby (Mayor) and Brian Rospert (Trustee) were on the Zoom call representing the Village of Milan regarding the Bickley Warehouse. Mr. Cull gave his background and interest in this project. He expressed his concerns with the demolition of the building. He recognized that there are significant roofing and foundation issues, and they had an engineer look at the building. Ms. Bowman-Moore stated that Erie MetroParks had asked for and still need a restoration and a business plan from Milan. What is the end use for the building if it is restored? She added that she needs some direction from the Board, she has a bid on the table for demolition and needs to respond to that gentleman. She also reminded the group that 'if the restoration were to be seven figures (over a million dollars), the project would be deemed too expensive. This was agreed upon by both Milan representatives and EMP, at the time.

Mr. Cull stated that they did not find the \$7,000 of funding for the study until this week. He asked how soon the decision needs to be made, and could they have more time for the study, assessments, gauge public interest, etc. Ms. Bowman-Moore again reminded the group, the decision to move forward rests on the estimated cost of restoration. A discussion ensued and it was agreed to allow Mr. Cull to have thirty days (until the next board meeting on June 16, 2021, to do the engineering survey to determine the costs and report at that meeting.

(4) Commissioner Wisehart moved to grant the Village of Milan thirty days to obtain an engineering plan and assessment and to present it at the June board meeting and asked that they have the engineer present.

Second: Commissioner Murray

Action: Motion carried unanimously with three affirmative votes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Bowman-Moore referenced her report which was included in the Board packet. She stated the following:

-Erie MetroParks will not participate in the H2O programs. We had our wetlands reviewed by ODNR personnel and they are in good shape and we do not qualify.

-June 16th should be our last Zoom board meeting, in July we will return to in-person meetings.

-We will be opening outdoor shelter reservations starting June 1, 2021.

-Jay Yochem is no longer a Ranger, he has relinquished his law enforcement and transitioned over to regular OPERS retirement and a Park Manager.

-Ms. Bowman-Moore referenced the proposed fee schedule the board had for review. Staff would like to transition to one reservation time slots a day, reduced from the two present slots. It would be safer for staff cleaning and most people reserve for the whole day. We have not increased shelter fees since 2012. Comm. Murray stated that with everything else increasing and we are not in need of additional income, she proposed that we keep the fees the same. Comm. Wisehart agreed as did Comm. Miars.

-Ms. Bowman-Moore added that she will most likely be voted in as the Ohio Parks & Recreation Association president in June. The board wished her good luck.

(5) Commissioner Murray moved to approve the Executive Director's Report as presented.

Second: Commissioner Wisehart

Action: Motion carried unanimously with three affirmative votes.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

2021 EMP Local Park Capital Improvement Grant Program Awards

Ms. Bowman-Moore stated that everyone who applied received some funding. Perkins Township and one of Sandusky's grant requests was rather large, so they will be receiving partial grants, approximately half of their request.

- (6) Commissioner Murray moved to authorize Ms. Bowman-Moore, Executive Director, to complete the award contracts as presented.
Second: Commissioner Wisehart
Action: Motion carried unanimously with three affirmative votes.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

Travel & Training Summary (acknowledge and file) NONE

Special Permit Summary (acknowledge and file)

There were two new special permits to acknowledge and file this month.

- (7) Commissioner Wisehart moved to acknowledge and file the Special Permit Summary provided.
Second: Commissioner Murray
Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

Credit Card Summary (acknowledge and file)

Ms. Bowman-Moore asked the board to acknowledge and file the Credit Card Summary.

- (8) Commissioner Murray moved to acknowledge and file the Credit Card Summary provided.
Second: Commissioner Wisehart
Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

Disposal of Surplus Personal Property & Remove from Inventory (acknowledge and file) NONE
Other (Misc. items from Board or Administration)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Land Acquisition

Commissioner Murray moved to enter Executive Session to consider the following matters: Land Acquisition.

- (9) Second: Commissioner Wisehart
Roll Call: Commissioner Miears: aye
Commissioner Murray: aye
Commissioner Wisehart: aye
Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

The Park Commissioners entered Executive Session at 1:59 PM and returned to Regular Session at 2:06 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business brought before the Park Commission,

- (10) Commissioner Wisehart moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:07 PM.
Second: Commissioner Murray

Roll Call: Commissioner Miears: aye
Commissioner Murray: aye
Commissioner Wisehart aye
Action: Motion passed unanimously with three affirmative votes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The foregoing is a true and accurate account of the May 12, 2021 meeting of the Park Commission and has been formally adopted by the Commissioners as such and shall be placed in and become part of the official Proceedings of the Board of Park Commissioners.

APPROVED:

James L. "Don" Miears, Chairperson

Date

ATTEST:

Amy Bowman-Moore, Executive Director

Date