

**Meeting Minutes
New Prague Park Board
Tuesday, July 14, 2020
6:00 PM**

1. Call Meeting to Order

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chair Amanda Judd. Members present were Caitlin Huiras, Maggie Bass, Steve Roesner, Joe Barten, Anthony Anderson and Youth Representative Adam Langfield. All members were present. Staff present was Ken Ondich – Planning / Community Development Director.

2. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Barten, seconded by Roesner, to approve the June 9, 2020 regular meeting minutes. Motion carried (6-0).

3. Review Financial Reports

Planning Director Ondich presented the financial reports to the Park Board noting that during the month of June there was \$1,338.40 added to the Park Equipment Fund from 5 new home permits being issued and that a total of 15 new home permits had been issued so far in 2020.

A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Huiras, to accept the financial reports as presented. Motion carried (6-0).

4. Margaret Solheid Resignation from Park Board

Planning Director Ondich stated that he received an e-mail dated June 11, 2020 from Margaret Solheid regarding her resignation from the Park Board effective immediately. He stated that the City will not be looking for a replacement for her position as all positions on all boards were put on hold due to Covid-19 for one year. He thanked Margaret Solheid for her contributions for the Park Board. He noted that formal recognition for outgoing members will occur in 2021 due to the extension of terms due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

5. Tikalsky Estates Plat Review for Park Purposes

Planning Director Ondich stated that the City received a plat request for a 2 lot, 2 outlot plat on 72.58 acres, with much of the plat being low area/flood plain. He stated that the Park Board's role in plat review is related to park and recreation recommendations. He stated that the Park Board reviews plats and determines if land or a payment in lieu of the land shall be dedicated to the City to meet the park dedication requirement per Chapter

066 of the City's Subdivision Regulations. He stated that staff recommends that for the 2 lots being platted at this time that a cash in lieu of payment should be made in the amount of \$1,085.58. He noted that additional park land dedication or cash in lieu of would be reviewed when future land is platted into lots. He stated that the future development would be the appropriate time to obtain an easement and construction of a trail along the drainage way as well as a trail along the north side of County Road 29.

Comments provided by the park board specific to the future platting of additional lots were summarized as follows:

- Asked about risk of constructing the future trail in the flood plain as it relates to longevity of the improvement
- Suggested the possibility of wetland restoration for wetlands in areas that are currently farmed
- Suggested the possibility of developing a wetland bank
- Suggested the possibility of having a trail loop away from the drainage area and near the homes for better connectivity, particularly if a wetland restoration could occur
- Suggested a sidewalk connection from Central Ave. S. to the future lots

A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Roesner, to recommend a park dedication payment in lieu of land dedication for the 2 lot plat of Tikalsky Estates in the amount of \$1,085.58 with additional park dedication to be obtained with the future platting of additional lots. Motion carried (6-0).

6. 2021 Budget Preparations

Planning Director Ondich stated that staff is in the early stages of the 2021 budget preparations and with that, staff would like the Park Board to begin thinking about projects to complete in 2021 from both the Park Board Budget and the Park Equipment Fund. He stated that he included a copy of this year's projects along with the Project Plan for future years that is looked at each year during budget preparations.

7. Miscellaneous

- 2020 Park Board Budget Project Update**– Planning Director Ondich stated that the sidewalk surround for the new zip line in Memorial Park was completed but delivery of the zip line will not occur until after August 1, 2020. He stated that regarding the Heritage Park Picnic Shelter, no quotes were received by the deadline and staff is attempting to obtain quotes once again. He stated that staff wanted to note that a project from a couple of years ago, the Native Plantings at all the Park Signs, has been partially replanted under warranty considerations by Applied Ecological Services.
- Covid-19 Update** – Planning Director Ondich stated that the City will be receiving social distancing signs from the LeSueur County SHIP Program at no

charge and that they will be placed in all city parks when they are received. He also stated that the City Council held a special meeting on June 29th to adopt a Covid-19 Preparedness Plan for all sports within the City with the purpose for this being spurred by the New Prague Orioles upcoming games at Memorial Park Stadium, but the City Attorney recommended the plan apply to all fields within the City. He noted that that in addition the City's Ballfield Use Policy was updated at the City Attorney's recommendation with added language on the last page of the policy relating to insurance, indemnification and adherence to Covid-19 Guidelines. He stated that normally the policy would have come before the Park Board first, before taking Council action, but there was a very short time period between the governor's announcement on adult and youth sports and the need to get the preparedness plan done by the end of June.

Maggie Bass asked if the City would be opening itself up to liability by putting the signs in parks. Planning Director Ondich stated that he did not believe so but would verify with the City Attorney.

Chair Judd asked if there was an update from the Fitness and Aquatic Center. Planning Director Ondich stated that staff did not receive an update this month but that a Joint Powers Board meeting would be occurring at the end of July.

Joe Barten asked if the Park Board could get a report on the use of picnic shelters and rental for the August meeting. He also asked how funding for trails in the CIP plan works and if the Park Board can fund studies.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 PM by order of Chair Judd.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Ondich". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ken Ondich
Planning / Community Development Director