

Meeting Minutes
New Prague Park Board Special Meeting
Tuesday, September 30, 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 Maggie Bass, Joe Barten, Anthony Anderson and Steve Roesner. Absent was Caitlin Huiras. Staff present was Ken Ondich – Planning / Community Development Director.

2. 2021 Budget Discussion

Planning Director Ondich stated staff has included a list of projects for 2021 for review and discussion based on past discussion of projects over the past year. He stated that the Park Board's general fund budget request in 2020 was \$32,500 and \$90,000 to be spent from Park Equipment Fund (230 Fund). He stated that based on the list for discussion, staff believes the request could be pared down closer to the \$32,500 amount from 2020 and that the drinking fountain by southside park and the portable pickleball nets could be moved from the annual budget request and paid for from the Park Equipment Fund (230) which has adequate funds to cover the projects in 2021 and that making this change would leave the 2021 Park Board Budget request at \$35,500 (a 9.2% increase). He also asked the Park Board to rank the final list of projects. He stated that for the purposes of the special meeting that the Park Board should focus on the 2021 projects at this time.

Maggie Bass stated that she liked Joe Barten's idea to purchase only 10 picnic tables per year going forward until they were all replaced. She also stated that she was not in favor of keeping the pickleball nets on the list for 2021 and that they should be moved onto a future improvement list as the use of the pickleball courts at Heritage Park and by the middle school had waned in 2020. She also stated that she agreed that the lights by the horseshoe pits should be removed since the work would be done in close proximity to the demo of the bathroom in Memorial Park.

Joe Barten suggested budgeting annually for tree replacement.

Planning Director Ondich stated that the City does have a tree farm and had budgeted in the past for replacement of ash trees in parks but that he would check with Parks Maintenance Supervisor Calliguri about the need for more trees.

Anthony Anderson stated that he believed there was a bare root exchange program in the area that the City could look into and that he would forward on information to staff about it.

Maggie Bass stated that the Scott County SWCD was a good source for bare root trees and shrubs for possibly expanding the tree farm as well.

Planning Director Ondich stated that he would have Jim Calliguri attend a Park Board meeting to provide more input on the tree farm. He also stated that staff has a tree inventory program that can be used for inventory of trees and eventually assist with the city obtaining grant funds to combat Emerald Ash Borer.

The Park Board also asked for an update on the zip line in Memorial Park.

A motion was made by Roesner, seconded by Barten, to finalize the 2021 Park Board Budget request to the City Council as follows:

Southside Park Drainage Project - \$20,000 – Priority #1

Aluminum Picnic Tables (10) - \$6,750 – Priority #2

Demo Bathroom and Horseshoe Pit Lights in Memorial Park - \$2,000 – Priority #3

Southside Park – Drinking Fountain - \$12,000 from Park Equipment Fund

Motion carried (5-0).

3. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:21 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