



Wednesday, May 8th, 2024
Grafton Parks & Recreation Board Room
715 West 5th Street
Grafton, ND 58237
5:15 p.m.

Minutes:

- I. Call to Order by Ryer Stark at 5:15 PM
- II. Board Members Present:
 - A. Board Members Present: Ryer Stark, Scott Hills, Cory Burns, Jon Jelinek, Kristi Olson
 - B. Staff Present: William Dahl, Matt Oppgaard
 - C. Media Present: Todd Morgan
 - D. Public Present: Matt Olson, Amber Meyer
- III. Ryer asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. Kristi added Pool Fundraising & Awareness under the Pool section of the Director's Report. Bill added WBI Energy to the Parks section of the Director's Report.
- IV. Matt Olson and Amber Meyer from the North Stars Youth Hockey New Arena Committee presented an update on the second ice sheet project at the Centennial Center. Matt Olson explained that they have broken the project down into 3 phases. First phase (estimated to cost \$1.8 million) would be for an outdoor ice sheet to be built with temporary refrigeration, temporary lights, and temporary warming house with equipment room. Funds will come from fundraising and the Grafton Blue Line Club. Grafton City Council will discuss taking on the construction note at their next meeting. Matt Olson reported that the School Board is willing to transfer the land to the Grafton Park Board. Matt Olson is looking at the project starting at the end of August or September. Phase 2 (estimated to cost \$2.5 million) is replacing the original ice sheet in the Centennial Center, upgrading the ice plant, and building an equipment room, locker rooms, and workout room to the east of the Centennial Center. Phase 3 (estimated to cost \$4.5 million) would build the building around the outdoor ice sheet to complete the project. Modern Mechanical will be performing the brine flush next week and will report on any issues found with the Centennial Center slab. Phase 1 and 2 could flip if Modern Mechanical finds that the original ice sheet is compromised. There will be 60' between the Centennial Center and the new ice sheet. Matt Olson is still working on the cost of running an outdoor ice plant. Matt Olson estimates that it will take 8 years to complete all phases. The next phase of the project will not start until the previous phase is paid off. The new arena committee will be back in June to update the Park Board of any developments in the project.
- V. Ryer asked for an approval of the minutes from the April Park Board Meetings held on 04/10/24. Cory made a motion to approve the minutes from the April Park Board meeting. Seconded by Jon, motion passed all approved. Ryer asked for a motion for the authorization of expenditures as listed. Scott made a motion to approve the expenditures as listed. Seconded by Kristi, motion passed all approved to pay bills.
- VI. The March and April bank statement reports were distributed to the Park Board for their review.
- VII. Reports:
 - A. Recreation Report

- i. Matt presented a profit/loss for Soccer. Expenses were up mostly due to having to pay more helpers to cover for Gabbi being on maternity leave. Normally Gabbi would run the soccer program since she has years of experience playing soccer growing up in Grand Forks. The soccer program had a net income of \$2,500, which is down \$1,087 from last year.
- ii. Baseball and t-ball numbers are up. Fastpitch numbers are about the same as last year. The 18U Fastpitch will need at least 4 more to register to avoid being canceled. Even with canceling 18U Fastpitch, the baseball/fastpitch programs overall will be up from last year. Registrations are still open at griftonparks.com.
- iii. The Anything Goes Sale went well. There was a total of 577 paid admissions, which is 103 more paid admissions than last year. The volleyball jamboree helped with admissions. No concessions at the school so a lot came over to eat at Lynn's Tex-Mex and flatbread taco fundraiser for REM.
- iv. Registrations for golf lessons are online now. There will be 2 one-week sessions. Session 1 starts June 3rd and session 2 starts July 8th. Ainsley and Aiden McLain will be the golf coaches again this year. There are already 9 registered for the 1st session and 5 registered for the 2nd session.
- v. Registrations for session 1 of swim lessons are online now. The 1st session will start June 10th and will run Monday-Thursday for 2 weeks. Fridays are scheduled for make-up days if any lessons need to be postponed due to the weather. The next sessions will be scheduled after Gabbi returns from maternity leave. The dates of the lessons will depend on how many WSI Lifeguards we have this year and their schedules since Ainsley is coaching golf and swim lessons.

B. Director

1. Parks

- i. Bill reported that WBI Energy had to change the approach since the last draft had the field approach too close to Rock Desautel's property. The original approach is outside the environmental study that was performed for this project. The final draft of the new field approach is placed on the southern edge of the environmental study. The new field approach is about 130' to the north of the original field approach. Bill needed a motion to allow WBI Energy to move forward with the new transfer station project. Scott made a motion to approve the new plans with the new field approach on the southern edge of the environmental study. Jon seconded the motion, motion passed all approved. Bill will let WBI Energy know they can move forward with their project.
- ii. Bill reported that he and Matt presented the new trail bridge project for the Recreation Trails Program Grant on April 22nd. There is \$1 million available for grant funding. There were \$3.5 million in projects presented to the Recreation Trails board. The trail bridge project is requesting \$180,100, which is 18% of available funding. Bill will let the board know if the Park Board is awarded the grant for the bridge project.
- iii. Bill reported that the Corn Maze major sponsor Hefty Seed has confirmed that they will donate the seed for the corn field. The park staff will work on installing the playground equipment donated by the City of Grafton when the projects at 8th Street Diamond and Pumpkin Park are complete.
- iv. The Soil Conservation Tree Grant has been submitted for 56 trees in Leistikow Park with deer protection and 10 trees in the Community Orchard.

2. Campground:

- i. Bill reported Cabin 7 is almost done and will be available for the 1st reservation on May 17th. Cabin 7 is booked through the rest of the season.

- ii. The women's shower drain in the Comfort Station disconnected from the drain pipe when the floor was mud jacked up last fall. Kutz & O'Brian removed the floor drain and reconnected the drain to the pipe then filled back in with new concrete.
- iii. Lyle is back in the campground and will be the campground host for this season.

3. Pool:

- i. Bill reported that he and the park staff are cleaning the pool. There is a heavy amount of leaves and silt that had blown into the pool. The amount of debris in the pool is similar to a flood year. The park staff are scooping out the leaves and silt as much as they can by hand but may have to hire Roto-Rooter if the city cannot bring in their pump truck to pump out the debris. Cory will check with Rock to see if they have time to bring the pump truck over. Cory mentioned that the city street department will be very busy with spring clean-up next week.
- ii. Bill reported that "Vote Yes" yard signs have been ordered and a paper ad has been scheduled for 2 issues of the Record and 2 issues of the Weekly Source. Copies of the yard signs and paper ad were shared with the Board.
- iii. Kristi reported that she met with Bill and Matt to discuss fundraisers and how to build community awareness of the tax measure. The Strand Theater will sponsor a Free Will Donation Movie on Sunday, June 9th. All donations will go to the pool project. Darren and Page have been very excited to help with the fundraiser.

4. Arenas:

- i. Bill reported that Lunseth Plumbing & Heating serviced and repaired 3 of the 5 sections of the Co-Ray-Vac heating system in the Centennial Center. He will return to repair the last 2 sections later. Plan is to have the whole system fully serviced/repaired by Monday.

5. Athletic Fields:

- i. Water will be turned on at the 8th Street Concessions/Bathrooms next week.
- ii. The outfield fence bottom rail, scoreboard, and batting cage will be installed in the next week or 2.

6. Elmwood:

- i. The Elmwood Board is performing their annual spring cleaning. Getting ready for summer rentals.

C. Business Manager

- i. Matt reminded the board to vote yes for the sales tax measure for the pool project on the June 11th ballot.
- ii. Matt reported that the June 11th election ballot is set with 4 people running for 2 open positions. Citizens of Grafton will decide between Jon Jelinek, Cameron Lentz, JR Steele, and Darrin Wollitz.
- iii. Bill and Matt will not be able to attend the June Park Board meeting on Wednesday, June 12th. The Park Board agreed to move the meeting to Tuesday, June 11th at 5:15pm at the Grafton Parks & Rec Office Board Room (715 West 5th Street).

- X. Old Business:
- XI. New Business:
- XII. Public Comments:
- XIII. Adjournment: Kristi made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Cory seconded the motion, motion passed all approved. The meeting was adjourned at 6:14 pm.