Meeting minutes 10-16-19

Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm. Present were Gary Reaman, Ashley Luft, Brian Brucato, Matt Sandstrom and Lindsay Hoekstra.

Public comment began with a proposal for new signage for Island Park. Nancy Porter presented designs and funding that would be available for the Park District to take advantage of in conjunction with a similar project that the City of Momence had moved to go forward with. After questions and discussion, a motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to work with Watseka Sign in an amount to not exceed $1,500.00. Motion passed. Next was Dawn Wilbarger representing Glad Fest. The Glad Fest committee wanted to communicate that the FFA would like to return to a Sunday tractor show on the East end of the Island during the festival and was looking for permission to give them the ok for that. A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to have the FFA host a tractor show on the east end of Island Park on the Sunday during Glad Fest. Motion passed. Other discussion about Glad Fest was increasing community service people for clean-up, reducing park employees to 3 during the festival and having the Glad Fest put a dumpster on the north side of the bridge.

The consent agenda had a motion made, seconded and voted unanimously to approve the meeting minutes from the September meeting. Motion passed. A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to approve the invoices as presented. Motion passed.

Ann Cobb began the staff report with preparations being made to host the Best Buddies program from the school district for a work/life skills detail later in the week. Keeping up with damages being carved into everything made of wood in the park has been time consuming. Fall cleanup and saving plants that are perennial, but vulnerable was underway. Using the mulch from the storm damaged trees in the gardens to give the park a neater look and enhance the soil for next year’s plantings was also underway. The fencing company had the park scheduled for mid-November for the fence damage that occurred in March. Many requests information regarding audits from many different agencies that the Park District has worked with or is still working with have come in. The only audit related directly to the Park District was dealing with the Workman’s Comp policy, due to the previous carrier leaving the Illinois market. Preparing for the Hayride was being done and two community volunteers had already been assigned to stations in the park along with park employees. Mrs. Luft had her confirmation class commit to working the Hayride along with Jr. High, High School NHS would be available as well. Some more discussion detailing the particulars of the event and everyone was comfortable with the plan.

Gary Reaman had nothing and Ashley Luft had the sign project that had been decided earlier along with the proposed banking changes from Midland to another vendor. Although First American gave a great presentation, it was thought that banking should be kept in town. Pricing rom Municipal would be explored. Cory Illum’s memorial bench remains on the agenda until the family’s input is obtained.

Lindsay Hoeskstra had nothing to add and Matt Sandstrom brought in the idea of a special meeting to set a 2020 calendar of events. A special meeting was scheduled for November 6, 2019 at 7:00 pm. Steve Gross was recognized to speak when he arrived. He spoke about his help with the hayride and the haunting of the East end. Many details were discussed and everyone was comfortable with the plan. Brian Bercato had nothing to add and there was a motion made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned 8:00 pm.