

CITY OF HERMANTOWN
PARK BOARD
January 18, 2023

1. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mike Miller; Jim Sonneson; Jenna Warmuth; Kelly Tasky; James Nelson and Councilor Hjelle

Members Absent: Gene Shaw and Dwight Morrison

Others Present: Eric Johnson, Community Development Director; and Mike Fox, Youth Baseball

2. MINUTES

Motion made by James Nelson to approve the December 20, 2022 regular meeting minutes. Seconded by Jim Sonneson. Motion carried 5-0.

3. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

None.

4. CONTINUING BUSINESS

4A. Fichtner Park Update

Eric Johnson, Community Development Director, updated the board on the “Base Plan” which consisted of the new field in the corner with artificial turf, the redo of Field 2 (Fields 3 and 4 would stay the same) and some amenity-based improvements to the park.

City Staff is slowing down the projects to 2024 so that baseball and other user groups can have a chance to potentially do some fund raising on their end. At a certain point, the parties would meet to see where those funds are, and along with the City’s \$3.8 million, would a Hybrid Plan can be realized, or should they stay with the Base Plan.

4B. Keene Creek Park improvements discussion

Eric discussed with the board members that the City had received monies through the American Rescue Plan Act, and that the City has designated \$150,000 to Keene Creek Park.

Eric shared with the handouts with the members that reflect cost estimates for items like a shade structure, park furniture and a playground.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5A. Trail Alignment/timeline discussion

Eric noted that the trails was a success part of the City’s Recreational Initiative had received \$4.5 million will be allocated to trails. City staff has discussed that in 2023 they will pin down the trail alignment and also work with different environmental permitting agencies to get them on board and let them know this is going to happen because a portion of the trail will be going through wetlands.

A January 30, 2023 meeting is scheduled with City staff, staff from the State of Minnesota's Board of Water and Soil Resources, the DNR, and the consultant thy City uses for wetland delineations, to discuss these alignments.

Mike Miller will be stepping down as Chairperson on the Board. Eric advised the members that if anyone was interested in being the Chairperson, they should contact him.

Eric advised the Board that he will not be available for the February meeting, and asked if the meeting could be held on either February 14 or February 28. It was also discussed that Eric could send out a memo – in lieu of a meeting – to Board members of all updates between now and February.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

None.

7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Mike Miller – None

Gene Shaw – Absent

Jim Sonneson – None

Kelly Tasky – Appreciates work done by public works on the trails

Dwight Morrison – Absent

Jenna Warmuth – None

James Nelson – None

Andy Hjelle – None

8. ADJOURN Motion made by James Nelson to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Jim Sonneson. Meeting adjourned at 5:33 PM.

Officiated by:

Transcribed by:

Mike Miller, Chair

Mary Melde, Administrative Assistant