



CITY OF HERMANTOWN
PARK BOARD MINUTES
July 21, 2026

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Kelly Tasky; Jim Sonneson; Dwight Wikstrom; James Nelson; and John Geissler

Members Absent: Mike Miller; Gene Shaw; and Dwight Morrison

Others Present: Eric Johnson, Community Development Director; Joe Wicklund, Asst. City Administrator; and Seth Terren.

MINUTES

Motion made by James Nelson to approve the June 16, 2026, regular meeting minutes. Seconded by Kelly Tasky. Motion carried 4-0.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

None.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

4A. Discussion on naming of fields after individuals within the parks.

Eric Johnson, Community Development Director, reviewed recent discussions about renaming parks or park features, including proposals to rename Rose Road after Tom Bang and considerations involving Fichtner.

Joe Wicklund, Assistant City Administrator, reviewed prior discussions regarding naming policies and commemorative recognition. He noted the importance of recognizing individuals based on their unique contributions while avoiding direct comparisons among community members. He invited the group to revisit the topic after having additional time to consider potential approaches.

Seth Terren said he had considered the City's perspective and recognized the challenges of naming fields after individuals, given the limited number of facilities and the likelihood of future requests. While he believed naming a field after Lonnie would be meaningful to the family, he suggested that, at a minimum, a permanent plaque or sign recognizing Lonnie's dedication and service would be an appropriate alternative. He added that the family could provide the wording.

John Geissler recalled that the softball community had proposed naming both fields after Tom Bang. Mention of a wall of fame would be an option as well.

A question was asked about the benches. Eric read an email on the progression the Johnson Road segment, that the trail will be constructed with class 5 by the end of the week and that the concrete pad, benches, and trash can locations have been staked out. The close out date for the project is October 1, 2026.

Eric also noted that the City Engineer will be meeting with the DNR regarding what a bridge structure looks like just south of Hermantown Road.

The board also discussed concerns about e-bikes on existing trails, which City staff is looking into.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Kelly Tasky – None

Gene Shaw – Absent

Mike Miller – Absent

Jim Sonneson – None

Dwight Morrison – Absent

James Nelson – None

Dwight Wikstrom – None

John Geissler – None

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

Officiated by:

Transcribed by

Kelly Tasky, Chair

Mary Melde, Administrative Assistant