

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE OF THE VILLAGE OF METTAWA, ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE HOUR OF 7:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2022 VIA ZOOM

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bohm called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

The Village President has made the determination that an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent because of the COVID-19 pandemic. As the head of this public body, the Village President has the authority to act on the Board's direction, based on the January 7, 2022 Disaster Declaration made by Governor Pritzker. The Village President has based this determination to ensure the safety of the Village Board members and the residents.

B. ROLL CALL

Upon a call of the roll the following persons were:

Present: Chairman Bohm and Members Clark and Pink

Absent: None

Chairman Bohm declared a quorum present.

Also on the Call: Village Clerk, Sandy Gallo; Village Administrator, Mandi Florip; Village Engineer, Scott Anderson and Trustees Armstrong and Towne

C. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JANUARY MEETING

Meeting minutes of January 12, 2022 were reviewed. It was moved by Member Pink and seconded by Member Clark that the regular meeting minutes be approved and be placed on file. The motion was carried.

D. RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE DUNLAP LAWN SERVICE PROPOSAL FOR WHIPPOORWILL PARK 2022 MAINTENANCE

Chairman Bohm indicated the Committee received Dunlap Lawn Service proposal worksheet listing the service work completed in 2021 and 2022 plans along with pricing. A few additions to the 2022 maintenance schedule included, the purchase of additional mulch and patch work to fill and seed any large hole throughout the park prior to the Village picnic. A special mowing and cleanup before the Village picnic is also a new charge for this year in the amount of \$900. Chairman Bohm stated he would like the Committee to consider adding two picnic tables and a garbage container onto the patio area. The garbage would be cleared by Dunlap Lawn Service during their scheduled visits. Member Pink commented Lake Forest has installed benches opposed to picnic tables. Would that style be a consideration? Chairman Bohm replied employees utilizes the walking trails so having a picnic table would be great promotion of eating at the park too. Chairman Bohm replied he along with Member Clark will be Dunlap's contacts for this agreement.

A motion was made to approve the Dunlap Lawn Service agreement for Whippoorwill Park maintenance schedule in the amount of \$15,805. The motion was made by Member Clark and seconded by Member Pink. The motion was carried.

E. DISCUSS THE POLLINATOR GARDENS MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

Chairman Bohm indicated the Village has five pollinator gardens, two at Whippoorwill Park, two at MacLean Preserve along the trail and one at Barry MacLean’s bench. The Committee should consider a 3-year stewardship instead of doing an annual contract. In addition to obtaining a stewardship, Chairman Bohm would like to extend the pollinator gardens by Barry MacLean’s bench to the main trail. One recommendation made was to edge the bench gardens with native stones. Chairman Bohm stated prior years maintenance at MacLean Preserve at Oasis Park was approximately \$4K. Whippoorwill Park maintenance expense was captured as part of the awarded ComEd grant. Chairman Bohm asked for the Committee’s consensus to email the following stewardship details for a three-year agreement to the four listed bidders. The Committee agreed. The following request for proposal is anticipated to be under \$25K which does not require to be held as an open bid. The request for proposal will include the location of each garden along with name of the plants found in each section. The goal is to obtain the proposals for the next Committee meeting.

F. DISCUSS MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT ITEMS FOR FY2022-2023 BUDGET

Chairman Bohm said Pizzo & Associates 2022 contractual items for Whippoorwill Park and MacLean Preserve at Oasis Park have been included in the budget. Chairman Bohm added he will follow-up with Nick Pizzo to determine if a burn will be required this year at MacLean Preserve at Oasis Park. After all, the berm was burned last year prior to seeding. Chairman Bohm indicated if the six trees planted last year survive on the berm, additional trees will be added to the MacLean Preserve at Oasis Park in the fall. The budgeted amount for tree removal was reduced to \$5K.

Chairman Bohm indicated he would like to plant native ground cover along the patio area at Whippoorwill Park. In addition, once the Grainger land purchase is complete, he would like to begin planning out the removal of buckthorn from one Village lot each winter. Mowing and maintenance budgeted item was increased to \$17,500.

Chairman Bohm stated one addition budget expense to consider is placing a stockade fence at Whippoorwill Park along Route 60 to prevent children or dogs from running into the main road. Adding a fence, would also create some privacy while at the park. Village Administrator Florip asked the Chairman if he had an estimate amount for the installation of the fence. Village Engineer Scott Anderson said only a 6-foot fence could be installed based on the ordinance. Village Administrator Florip indicated the fence expense will be included in the budget under the miscellaneous line item.

G. ANY OTHER ITEMS THAT MAY APPEAR TO THE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION, AND IF APPROVED, BE RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

H. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Member Clark and seconded by Member Pink to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm. The motion was carried.

Sandy Gallo, Village Clerk