

**PLEASANT HILL PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 14, 2019**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Pleasant Hill Park and Recreation Commission Regular Session was called to order at 6:00p.m. on March 14, 2019 by Chairperson Lown. Present: Austin Bittner, Adam Fendrick, Matthew Keller, Loren Lown, Olivia Smith, and Matthew Will. Absent: None.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

WILL/SMITH moved to approve the agenda. Ayes: Unanimous. Motion carried.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 14, 2019 REGULAR MEETING

WILL/KELLER moved to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2019 regular meeting. Ayes: Unanimous. Motion carried.

4. TIME TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION (5 MINUTE LIMIT)

Councilman Ross Gruters thanked everyone for voting on March 5th and discussed approved budget with a property tax reduction to \$11.50 and 22% voter turnout rate.

5. NEW BUSINESS-

A. PARKS & RECREATION ANNUAL REPORT-

- Three key projects were identified and budgeted for on the annual report; 1) Hwy 163 Corridor, 2) new public safety building and renovation of current building, and 3) Hickory Glen Park Phase 1. Items not making funding list include ADA transitioning of intersections and sidewalks and Hwy 163 crossing improvements.
- The Planning & Zoning Commission is in process of updating zoning, landscape and buffer, mobile food trucks, and stream buffer ordinances.
- Awarded Tree City USA for the 14th year in 2018 and became 2nd city in the state to be awarded Bird Friendly Iowa designation.
- 2018 Flooding Update: \$45,630 in damages, 192 total staff hours, severe damage to Copper Creek Lake Park electrical panels, and maintenance shop flooded. City Staff working with FEMA for repair funding and raising park electrical to prevent future flood damage.
- Park Maintenance: batting cage installation; landscaping and drainage renovation at City Hall; prescribed fires; Sunset Park drainage issues; and Wading Bridge and Pergola Swing installation at Copper Creek Lake.
- Recreation: increased shelter reservation, rental revenue, and program participation; all garden plats reserved; and robust little league, soccer league, and community event participation.
- Community Outreach: 700 volunteer hours; over 200 trees distributed; \$26,375 in grants and local donations; social media; and 30 community partnerships.
- Budget: 5.5% increase from previous year with \$1.7 million in capital improvements scheduled.

Commissioners and City Staff discussed new stream buffer ordinance and collaborative efforts with Polk County Soil and Water and surrounding cities for more consistent stream buffer regulations across the Metro Area and Unincorporated Polk County. Commissioners and City Staff also discussed Lower Fourmile Creek MOU; recurrent flooding of the creek; current progress on property acquisition as noted in greenspace master plan; problematic erosion areas outside city limits to the north; and high demand and wait list for community garden plots.

B. 2019/2020 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS-

Main focus will be on Hickory Glen Park and Youngstown Trail. Irrigation systems for the ball fields will be postponed and replacing park lights with LED fixtures will be completed as time and money allows.

6. REPORTS –

A. PROJECT UPDATES–

- Hickory Glen Park Phase 1 – \$2.8mil budget; May 1st anticipated start date for infrastructure, soccer fields, mass grading, and pond; creek erosion mitigation and dog park design as funding allows; and \$80,000 WQI grant received for park development.
- Youngstown Trail Phase 2 – \$589,600 budget; schedule construction period from June to September; and extension to Doanes Park as budget surplus allows.
- New Public Safety Building – \$16.7mil budget; currently in planning and design; LOSST revenue funding new building and renovation of existing public safety building.
- Southeast Connector – Construction started October 2018; \$9.3mil budget; project includes Vandalia Road and Pleasant Hill Blvd intersection; pedestrian trail on east side of boulevard to Doanes Park; engineered ponds; and long-term vision for the area.
- Meacham Drive – \$2.6mil budget; anticipated start date in March; extending Meacham Drive west from NE 70th Street to NE 64th Street; and provide access to new public safety building.
- Woodland Drive – \$386,000 budget; connects SE 55th to Capitol View Drive; will provide residents access to Pleasant Ridge Estates during renovation of S Shadeyview Blvd; and anticipated start date of June 2019.
- Batting Cages at Doanes Park – 80% completed; anticipated opening in April; majority of funding came from outside sources.
- Art Installation – Sculpture for the 70th Street round-a-bout has been selected; \$100,000 budget; final fundraising will begin soon.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS –

Commissioner Herrin has resigned.

Public Safety Building design open house April 21st and 22nd from 8am-4pm in Police Department training room.

April 3, 2019 Tree City USA luncheon.

2019 Flooding Update: Fourmile Creek is running high; tributaries flooded over trail; Des Moines River expected to continue rising; boat ramp flooded; no significant damages at this time.

Commissioners and City Staff discussed upcoming compost program; Freezer Meals class; future discussion of available recreation classes; and wide variety of tree species and edible fruiting trees at Doanes Park.

8. ADJOURNMENT

SMITH/FENDRICK moved to adjourn. Ayes: Unanimous. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:00p.m.

- NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING – April 11, 2019 – 6:00PM

Jennifer Bartles
Recording Secretary