

Mecosta County Park Commission Commission Meeting

The September 12, 2023, Commission Meeting of the Mecosta County Park Commission was called to order at Mecosta County Services Building at 5:00 PM by the Commission Vice Chairman, Mr. Griffith.

Roll Call

Members Present: Mrs. Bradstrom, Mr. Farrow, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Hatkowski, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Lambrix, Ms. Miller, Mr. Stanek (5:10 PM), Mrs. Strong and Mr. Vogel. **Member Absent:** None. **Others Present:** Jeff Abel - Superintendent, Taylor Jutila - Operations Manager, Mary Hansen - HR Manager and Kathy Maclean - Administrative Clerk.

Approval of Agenda

Hearing no objections, the agenda stood approved as present.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Vogel motioned, seconded by Mrs. Bradstrom, to approve the minutes of the August 15th Park Commission, August 25th Personnel Committee, August 30th Masterplan Committee and September 5th Finance Committee meetings. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

Appeal of Eviction: postponed until Mrs. Homrich arrives.

Reports and Updates

Superintendent's Updates

The Superintendent updated the Commission on 14 current and completed projects, including:

Servers for Park System remains inaccessible to staff. Staff continue to use external drives to periodically backup computer files.

Park Cameras at Merrill-Gorrel have been installed and provide minimal live feed, compared to the feed coming from the other 3 parks.

Generator Start-ups have been completed and certified with the exception of Paris Park, the contractor and sub-contractor are working to complete.

Camis Conversion start-up meeting was held on 9/7 and weekly meetings are scheduled moving forward. Mrs. Strong motioned, seconded by Mr. Farrow, to modify arrival/departure days for the School Section Lake Family Group Camp to check-in on Tuesdays and check-out on Mondays. Motion carried.

Aqua Thruster Mrs. Bradstrom motioned, seconded by Mr. Lambrix, to move forward with the purchase of one unit at a cost of \$4219. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Stanek arrived; Mr. Griffith turned the meeting over to the Chairman.

Appeal of Eviction: Mrs. Homrich appealed to the Commission to reverse her Brower Park eviction. The Commission took no action, the eviction and term stands.

Dragon Trail the ADA bridge will be installed once it has been received.

Incident/Accident Reports 8 reports reviewed and discussed.

Year to Date Revenue Report reviewed. 2023 camping revenue is currently 8% above 2022 and vehicle revenue is up over 3%.

Committee Actions

Masterplan

Playground Project equipment for School Section, Brower and Merrill-Gorrel has arrived, installations to be completed prior to end of season; Paris equipment is delayed.

School Section Lake-Renovation Updates Mr. Griffith informed the Commissioners that the delayed EGLE permit should arrive shortly, and groundbreaking will follow thereafter.

Finance

Brower Park-Electric Bids Mr. Griffith motioned, seconded by Mr. Farrow, to award the project to Hillard Electric for \$374,400. Discussion included funding project as a match with the County and groundbreaking in fall 2024/spring 2025. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

2024 Personnel Budget Mr. Hatkowski motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel to accept the recommendations of the Personnel and Finance Committees and approve the Personnel budget as presented. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

2024 Capitals Budget Mr. Lambrix motioned, seconded by Mr. Griffith to accept the recommendations of the Masterplan and Finance Committees and approve the Capitals budget as presented. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

2024 Final Budget Review and Approval Mr. Griffith motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel to accept the 2024 Parks budget as presented. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Seasonal Camper Deposit Update School Section Lake, Merrill-Gorrel and Paris Parks' 2024 deposits are typical of prior years with School Section Lake continuing to have a waitlist.

Financial

Financial Report - Revenue & Expenses, Cash Spreadsheet, Year-to-Year - Reports were reviewed and discussed.

Approval of Bills - Mrs. Bradstrom motioned, seconded by Mr. Griffith to approve payment of the bills in the amounts of \$10,856.37, \$46,627.08, \$26,496.67 and \$13,236.50. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Public Comment: Mr. Hawley had questions regarding the School Section Lake campground expansion and submitted a petition with camper concerns. Mr. Hawley requested permission to move his camper to its winter storage location prior to the end of the season, which was granted.

Other Business: None.

Next Monthly Commission Meeting is scheduled for 5 PM, Tuesday, October 17th, at the Mecosta County Services Building.

Adjourned: 6:15 PM