

MINUTES
CITY OF PLAINWELL
PARKS & TREES COMMISSION
January 15, 2021
Zoom Meeting

1. Matthew Bradley called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM on the Zoom Meeting Application as per Senate Bill 1108.
2. Roll Call: Present: Matthew Bradley, Marsha Keeler, Bunny LaDuke, Public Works Superintendent Bob Nieuwenhuis, Tom Belco, Gina Berry. Absent: Todd Overhuel. Commissioner Bradley was in Kentwood, Michigan and Superintendent Nieuwenhuis was in Grandville, Michigan, with all other attendees being in Plainwell, Michigan. Also in attendance Brian Kelley City Treasurer
3. Approval of Minutes:

Marsha Keeler moved to accept and place on file the minutes of October 15, 2020. Gina Berry supported the motion. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

4. Parks:
Bob reported that the roofs being repaired from the April 2020 Hail Storm include the Pell Park Steel Roof, Pell Park Gazebo, Cook Park Bathroom, Kenyon Park Bathroom and Pavilion, and the Bandshell. The roofing materials should be uniform across the various parks.

He then provided a report on different types of self-watering containers for replacing the hanging baskets. There were discussions about the different types and the related costs. The upfront costs would be offset by cost savings by having less materials each year to plant the baskets, less staff time for watering (could water as little as once per week instead of three times), and possibly fertilizer costs. The Flower Funds have all been expended, so finding the funds for the \$5,000 up-front costs could be a challenge. A few commissioners offered to contribute to the costs. Superintendent Nieuwenhuis noted a quick turn-around is needed to order these for the 2021 season. The Commissioners encouraged staff to target the Earth Planter option once funding is secured.

Sherwood Park Maintenance Report - Marsha Keeler

Marsha reported that basketball athletes continue to enjoy the facility.

Pell Park Maintenance Report - Todd Overhuel, Gina Berry

Gina reported that the holiday lights looked very nice. She noted some overgrowth around the gazebo that needs to some TLC.

Hicks Park Maintenance Report - Bunny LaDuke

Bunny reported that the Christmas Cards looked great.

Cook Park Maintenance Report – Tom Belco

Tom reported that the dogs continue to love the Park!

Kenyon Park Maintenance Report – Matthew Bradley

Matthew noted there was nothing to report.

Darrow Park Maintenance Report – Gina Berry

Gina noted there was nothing to report besides the new boat launch for the fire department.

Riverwalk, Band Shell & CBD Maintenance Report Gina Berry

Gina confirmed the lights along the Riverwalk will continue lighting up the area.

5. New Business

- A. Arbor Day Tree: The Commissioners discussed how to identify someone to honor with the Arbor Day Tree Planting. Community Members Tony Gless and Jack Shoemaker were noted as nominees for the honor. Commissioner LaDuke reported she would reach out to the city's Community Development Manager Denise Siegel to ask for community input through Facebook.

6. Open Business

A. None

7. Public Comments

None.

8. Staff Comments

None

9. Chairman's Report

Matthew noted he enjoyed the Zoom meetings, even with some technical difficulties. City Clerk Brian Kelley noted that the City plans to take advantage of recent law changes with the Open Meetings Act and continue to host Zoom meetings through March 2021. Commissioner Bradley also thanked Cheryl Pickett for her continued support with communicating with the Commission.

10. Commissioners' Comments

None

11. Items For Next Agenda

None noted

12. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 5 PM.

13. Adjournment

Marsha Keeler moved to adjourn the meeting. Bob Nieuwenhuis supported the motion. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:34 PM.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Kelley

Plainwell City Clerk