

CITY OF BURTON
REGULAR PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
JUNE 23, 1999/ 4:00 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Paula Zelenko at 4:00 P.M.

Members Present: Blundell, Hodgeson, Hindes, Crawford, Zelenko, LaDuke, Kallin, Walls, Manzardo and Waterson.

Members Absent: Burger.

Others Present: J. Major, DPW Director and D. Richards, Clerk's Office.

Moved by Mr. Hindes, seconded by Mrs. Hodgeson to approve and authorize the minutes of the Meeting of June 9, 1999, at 4:00 p.m.

- PURPOSE OF THE MEETING:
1. Fire Station #1 / Water Tower Park - Progress Report
 2. Improvements to Veterans Memorial Park – Progress Report
 3. Review & discussion relative to Thread Creek & Davison Rd. Side Park / Clean Michigan Initiative. (Proposal C)
 4. Davison Road Side Park / Take Over Discussion with County Representatives
 5. Any other business or discussion germane to commission business

PRESENTATION:

Davison Road Side Park

Mr. Bomia representing Genesee County Parks was here and spoke on the history of the Davison Road Side Park. This has always been a Road Side Park that was owned by the State and when the expressway came through the State offered it to the City of Burton, and at that point the City was not willing to take it over. The State then offered it to Genesee County Parks and since then they have maintained it and have always been willing to have the City of Burton take it over. The County has parks that have hundreds or thousands of acres that they maintain, the Davison Road Side Park is more like a private or city park. Mrs. Zelenko asked, Mr. Bomia if he had any idea how much of the millage that the City of Burton citizens pay to the County, is put in for upkeep on the park. And if the County, would assist with help of replacing and repairing of equipment at the Davison Road Side Park if the City takes the park over. In addition to that Mr. Bomia stated he does not have any idea what the amount is that is put into the millage, the millage is not broke down by parks it is a lump sum and is dispersed over the park areas. This amount is limited for maintenance each year for replacing and repairing equipment. Mr. Bomia suggested that if the City is considering taking over the Park and having the County help that a proposal be prepared with outline of intent, how long you intend to do it, long range plan and how much participation from the County to achieve goals. The two people to contact would be James Bassett present Director, or Johnny Johnson Park Commission Chairman.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Pauline Dargel, 6119 Hugh, spoke in regards to the Davison Road Side Park. Her concerns included special assessment district for paving and improving drainage, parking during winter when sliding, and upkeep of equipment in park. Mrs. Dargel opposes the City taking over title and ownership of Davison Road Side Park,

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COMMISSION DISCUSSION:

Mr. Blundell asked why Mrs. Dargel didn't want the City to take over the park and make it better.

Mrs. Dargel stated that she has seen the public use this park. She recently visited the park with her grandson. The grass was being cut and there is no creek at that location. She has seen residents from Eastmoreland . dump their trash there.

Mrs. Manzardo spoke in regards to the use of the park, and if there could be a way a count could be kept of people using the park. She suggested it as used more during winter for sliding.

Mr. Hindes indicated that the park was being used every time he went passed.

Mrs. Crawford commented on Mr. Bomia's statement regarding the replacement or removing of bad grills. Some of the grills at Davison Road Side Park are in bad condition.

Mrs. Manzardo stated that Mr. Bomia said that this park was not a priority because of the use.

Mrs. Zelenko made reference to Mr. Bomia's remarks that this park is used by city resident more than county wide, so therefore, it is not in the Regional Park Plan.

Mrs. Hodgeson was concerned that For-Mar was the only park in Burton maintained by the Genesee County Parks, and if so than there should be money spent on Davison Road Side Park because there is a certain amount paid by city residents.

Mr. LaDuke commented on the negative comments from residents when the Parks & Recreation Commission tried to do positive things in the city. For example, Kelly Lake was put on a back burner because of negative comments. He feels there is no other land better suited than the Davison Road Side Park. If it is the goal of the commission to improve this park, than we should make a decision on to proceed.

Mrs. Kallin and Mr. Hindes both agreed with Mr. LaDuke that the Davison Road Side Park is established and would get more use if improved.

Mrs. Zelenko stated that from what Mr. Bomia said it looks like the County would be interested in shared renovation of the Davison Road Side Park. We should put together a proposal on what we would like to accomplish and present it to the County.

Mr. LaDuke stated that a proposal for a playscape, picnic tables, and garbage pick up was presented a few months ago. He suggested that the commission review the previous proposal.

Mrs. Zelenko asked for volunteers to set on a sub-committee to address this issue. Paula Manzardo, Ralph LaDuke and Rebecca Waterson will meet to discuss plans for the Davison Road Side Park.

Mrs. Manzardo suggested the sub-committee meet to discuss this issue and report back to the full commission at the next Parks & Recreation Meeting to be held on July 21, 1999.

Water Tower Park

Mr. Major discussed briefly that things are coming in on a daily basis, plants are in, concrete has been poured, the fence is up and a sign has been order. The projected completion date is the third week of July.

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Water Tower Park

Mr. Blundell asked if Arbor Drug Store had contributed to the project.

Mr. Major said the City has not received a check from Arbor Drug Store. It has changed new ownership and a representative has not returned our phone calls. Therefore, they will not be on donor list.

Veteran Memorial Park

Mr. Hindes spoke briefly on reservations and guidelines for the Pavilion. The committee made a few revisions to the guideline list. Mr. Hindes will make the changes and distribute the new list.

Mrs. Hodgeson asked if she had the park reserved and someone wanted a memorial, would the memorial have priority.

Mr. Hindes suggested reservations would have priority. Memorial Services take 15 – 20 minutes.

Mr. LaDuke had concerns about grills being used on the tables. He said this could be addressed in the guidelines. He suggested one or two grills could be added to the park area at a later date.

Mr. Hindes moved and Mrs. Crawford seconded the following motion:
To accept guidelines and send them to the Council for their approval. Motion carried 10 – 0.

Discussion was held in regards to charging a fee for the use of the pavilion. The commission agreed to a \$25.00 non-refundable fee. This was added to Item #4 on the guideline list.

Mr. Hindes mentioned the problems at the fountain from kids playing. Both Mr. Hindes and Mr. Centilli have been over there to take care of the soap that was poured in the water. Signs have been ordered for this area. A suggestion was made to put in surveillance cameras. Mr. Hindes spoke with Judge Hughes in regards to supervising individuals on work release to help keep up with weeding and etc.

Mrs. Zelenko commented that she had sent Judge Hughes an updated list of community service workers.

Mrs. Manzardo indicated there was a water treatment to prevent foaming and would not harm the plumbing. Mrs. Zelenko will recommend this treatment to the Mayor.

Thread Creek

Mrs. Zelenko stated that Keith was present to give update.

Mr. Walls had some concerns about Thread Creek and Davison Road Side Park. Both of these areas are flood plains and were given to the city by the Federal Government. If we kept the cost down, she suggested improving Davison Road Side Park. He suggested if the Davison Road Side Park was used more often, it would not be polluted as much. He suggested Mrs. Dargel call the City about residents dumping trash

Mr. Major stated that if Mrs. Dargel could give them a name and address they would send a notice.

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PARK & RECREATION BUDGET

Mrs. Zelenko gave an update on the \$25,000 allotted by Council for a part-time Parks & Recreation Director. The committee will have input on the job description for the director.

Davison Roadside Improvements

Mrs. Zelenko had stated that they had asked for \$30,000 for improvements to Davison Roadside Park, however, it was amended to \$20,000.

Veterans Memorial Park

Mrs. Zelenko stated this line item was given \$23,400 for upcoming budget, which may change due to money left from this year's budget. This will be used for restrooms, sprinklers and an orifice.

Mrs. Waterson asked about funds for the improvements for at Fire Station Park #2.

Mrs. Zelenko stated this money would come out of this year's budget, \$9,000 to be used for materials. The new budget is effective July 1, 1999.

Mrs. Manzardo spoke briefly in reference to the article, Phasing Out Dangerous Playground Equipment and asked that this article be put with the minutes so each member has a copy.

Mr. Major discussed the materials to be used at Fire Station Park #2. Mr. Riess and Mr. Major have looked into different materials and think that the way to go is a 6 X 6-wolmized lumber around play area and fill in with pea rock. This cost would be lower than any other materials.

Mr. Walls made a motion to use the 6 X 6-lumber and pea rock at Fire Station Park #2 seconded by Mrs. Crawford.

Motion Carried 7 –3.

Bentley School Project

Mrs. Zelenko read the letter from Mr. Kefgen regarding changing the tennis courts to outside basketball courts at Bentley High School. Bentley has support of Burton Kiwanis for financial assistants, Bentley has come to the Parks & Recreation Commission to consider funding of \$3,000 to help with this project. Completion of this project is set for late August. Mrs. Zelenko stated that the tennis courts were built with a portion of Community Development Dollars and may have to get approval from the County.

Mr. Walls made a motion to reserve \$3,000 from current budget for project with Bentley Schools seconded by Mrs. Crawford.

Motion Carried 10 – 0.

MEETING ADJORNED AT 5:41 P.M.

DSR

