

**CITY OF IRON RIVER
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday August 11, 2021
10 AM
Minutes**

Committee Member Keith Hamel called the meeting to order at 10 a.m., in the Council Chambers of the Iron River City Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Nick Karnack, Dan Hinch, Terry Tarsi and Keith Hamel.

Absent: Craig Richardson and Phyllis Mangone.

Also present: City Manager Rachel Andreski and Clerk/Deputy Treasurer Bernadette Coates.

Public in attendance: Dennis Powell.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

APPROVE AGENDA

Tarsi moved, with support from Hinch to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor; Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES

Hinch moved, with support from Hamel, to approve the June 9, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. All were in favor; Motion carried.

MANAGER'S REPORT –

Conversion Issue:

Andreski said she and Council had been invited to attend a boat tour at Ice Lake with members of the Iron County Lakes and Streams Association. She said she would try to speak to them on some ideas for Ice Lake and the Iron River alike.

Recreation Plan Update:

Andreski said OHM has been paid 100% to date and Vanessa Warren has not replied to her since June 3, 2021. Warren's concern was that the MDNR was sensitive to Thayer's approach and thought he did not do his best to gather input from the public beyond himself and possibly the Parks and Recreation Committee. She is requesting the City hold two more public meetings, advertise in the local newspaper, present the plan and resolution to the Planning Commission and then after 30 days it can go the Council for approval. Andreski said she had already forwarded the required information from previous public hearings and meetings but has still heard nothing. Andreski said her next step is to approach Warren's supervisor. Tarsi suggested inviting them to the next Committee meeting.

WE Energies Property/Disc Golf Course Parking Lot:

Andreski said she is still in discussions with the new WE contact. He said he wanted to confer with other WE Energies officials, but they have been out for vacations. In the meantime, he is requesting a proposed sketch from the City with their intentions.

Andreski introduced and welcomed Nick Karnack, DPW Foreman to the Committee.

Andreski said there are two students interested in the vacant seat on the Committee. They will be presented to Council at their next meeting for consideration

Andreski informed the Committee of a new group, Iron County Trail Club. They came to a Council meeting asking for use of the corner lot on Franklin and 4th for a non-motorized pump track. Council gave them permission and have a license agreement in place for their use through the Recreation Committee of Iron County.

Andreski said the Iron County Dog Society had approached Thayer in 2018 about a dog park. Recently, they approached the City Council, and after much discussion, it was realized they would only get the park ready and it would be the City's responsibility to maintain. They were not interested in having a license agreement including liability insurance, formed and now would like information on what needs to be done to move forward. Hinch said Thayer did include information in the recreation plan. Tarsi said the City has too many parks and cannot keep up the maintenance on them now and he is against the idea of creating another one. Hinch agreed and said the insurance would be much more due to animals being involved.

Andreski said she met with Kevin Schmutzler, West Iron County School's new Superintendent. She said she had provided him with a copy of the Nelson Field Agreement, and they will be meeting to review it. Hinch said he and Councilperson Leonoff would also be available to provide input during that meeting.

OLD BUSINESS -

Improvement Projects FY20:

Andreski said without Richardson being present, there is no update. She said she didn't realize how much the lights are used at Bachman Park and they are an issue. She said the rodeo, demo derby and the mud bogs utilize the lights. She said a new co-ed softball team would like to be able to practice later in the evening and would also use the lights. She said Richardson still has this project on his to-do list.

Forbes Location Park – Hinch said Richard Sinclair, Sinclair Playground Equipment, stopped in town on June 21st. They toured several parks and he pointed out several non-compliant pieces of playground equipment. As of August 10, 2021, there are grants available with a November 2nd deadline application date.

Nanaimo Park Restroom Partitions and Wellhouse #2 Roof – Andreski said after three times putting this item out for bids, one was finally received from Stik-Bilt Construction and the project was awarded.

Andreski informed the Committee that the women's bathroom stalls at Nelson Field had been vandalized. Chief Bristol started receiving tips after a plea for information was placed on the City's

Facebook page. Andreski said juveniles have been identified and the case is now at the Iron County Prosecutors office.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Hinch informed the Committee the Recreation Association of Iron County have hired an individual from Crystal Falls to mow the Tailings Disc Golf Course. The next scheduled mow is Tuesday, August 17th at 8 a.m. He complimented the City DPW on their great job doing what they can and suggested timing their mow around the time scheduled.

Andreski said moving forward with the disc golf course, the City should move forward with plans for maintenance and promotion.

ADJOURNMENT

Tarsi moved with support from Hinch to adjourn at 10:44 a.m. All were in favor. Motion carried.



Bernadette Coates, Clerk/Deputy Treasurer