

Wahpeton Park Board Minutes

February 19, 2025

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Wahpeton Park Board was held on Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at 5:15 pm at the Community Center in Wahpeton, North Dakota.

Commissioners present: Watson, Gripentrog, Hatting. Formaneck.

Staff present: Brad Edwardson - Director of Parks and Recreation, Curt Holtz –Park Superintendent, Josh Cook - Business Manager, Summer Scepaniak- Recreation Director, Park Board Clerk- Connie Metcalf.

Meeting was called to order by Park Board Vice President Gripentrog.

Citizen's Request: none

Approval of Minutes:

*Motion by Hatting to approve the Park Board regular meeting minutes from January 19, 2025 seconded by

Formaneck. MC 3-0.

Reports from Officers

Director of Parks and Recreation:

- JRF lights are up. Power needs to be run, alignment and burial of old poles.
- Researched and wrote up proposal on how P/R would operate the proposed Wellness.
- A vote on April 29, 2025 passed for a 1% sales tax.
- Hatting said maybe we need a PB vote to see who wants to do the Wellness Center.
- Continue to work with Zoo Staff on building a budget can be maintained.
- Switching our IT services to a Corporate Technologies of Fargo.
- Have been working with Jay Dickey to build new ballfield calendars.
- Baseball and Softball meeting coming up in next week.

Zoo Director

- No report

Wahpeton Park Board

Reports from Commissioners and Committees:

Maintenance / Planning Committee: Curt Holtz

Buildings

- Schmitty's is waiting until warmer weather to install plumbing/heating in JSF restrooms.

Grounds

- JRF lights are up. Need wiring and lights adjusted.
- Pond Hockey Tournament went well.
- Had several snow removal days on pond and rink.

Planning

- JRF invoices are all paid.
- JRF lights have \$160,000 to be paid.
- JSF had another donation of \$5,000.
- Meeting with Morris Painting from Fargo to get bid on JRF column painting.
- Legacy Development will be looking for input on what the Park Board would like to do regarding a park in that development.
- One quote for park sign has been received from MDI.

Other

- Curt attended the International Society of Arboriculture annual meeting in Aberdeen, SD.
- Grant money for tree planting could be come more difficult to obtain.
- Emerald Ash Borer is spreading, and it will get to Wahpeton in a matter of time.

Personnel/Finance Committee:

Personnel:

- Hired a new Pool Manager for 2025 – One of the BW Swim team coaches.

Finance: Josh Cook

- End of month balances
 - Park Board \$295,234.63
 - Park and Rec Foundation \$209,068.42
- Other Assets
 - Bell CD - \$108,191.01
 - Bell Money Market- \$27,362.75
 - BMO Money Market - \$36,607.65
 - Edward Jones - \$7,483.11
 - RJ Hughes – Trust (US Bank)-\$151,007.69
 - Fleenor Trust (BMO) \$107,997.07
 - Zoo Debt - \$422,964.81
- Budget Review
 - Major Expenses- JRF lights, Scott's Electric \$160,000 open invoice
 - Major Revenue – Property taxes for General fund, Specials and Capital Improvements has started to come in.

Wahpeton Park Board Minutes

Recreation: Summer Scepianiak

- Youth Basketball – Booster Club and Winter Boys went well.
- Gym is reserved for Traveling BB until end of February.
- Calendar is being made for the Baseball field and will be posted on our website.
- Women's/Coed VB playoffs are they end of March.
- MBB playoffs are beginning of April.
- Cal Ripken forms were sent out. Due April 1st.
- Baseball Benefit is scheduled for March 29, March at WCC.
- NDSCS track is not available to use this spring.

* Formanek motioned to approve the committee reports, seconded by Hatting. MC 4-0.

Scheduled Committee meetings:

- **Maintenance / Planning Committee** – Tuesday, March 11, 2025- 12 PM – Park Shop.
- **Personnel / Finance Committee** – Wednesday, March 12, 2025 - 12:00 PM – WCC.
- **Recreation Committee** – Thursday, March 13, 2025 - 12:00 PM – WCC.

Commissioner's Requests:

- Formanek talked about HOR meeting. Stern's Area.

Financial Reports:

- Financial reports available.
- Monthly bills submitted.

*Hatting motioned to approve financial reports and approve Park Board bills, seconded by Formanek. MC. 4-0.

Unfinished / New Business: (100% approval for vote consideration).

Date of Next meeting: Wednesday, March 19, 2025- 5:15 PM – Wahpeton Community Center.

Adjournment.

*Hatting motioned to adjourn, seconded by Formanek. MC. 4-0.

Brian Watson, Park Board President

Connie Metcalf, Park Board Clerk