

VILLAGE OF MCFARLAND
Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes

Wednesday, April 3, 2024 - 6:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL.

Trustee Jerke called the regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee to order at 6:30 PM in the Community Room at the Municipal Center. This meeting was also held via Zoom webinar.

Members present: TJ Jerke, Luke Fessler, Sarah Kuba, Tanya Lancaster, Justin Rupert, Lori Wisnicky, Jessica Tokar

Members not present:

Staff Present: Director of Public Works Lee Igl, Parks Superintendent Sayer Larson, Community & Economic Development Director Andrew Bremer, Village Administrator Matt Schuenke, Associate Planner Kong Thao, Assistant to the Public Works Director Aimee Irwin.

2. PUBLIC APPEARANCES.

- a. *This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Parks and Recreation Committee for items that are not on the agenda. Please remember this is a hybrid meeting conducted in person and through the Zoom online meeting platform. Meeting attendees wishing to address the Committee about items not on the agenda may do so at this time. Zoom attendees should type their name and address in the Question and Answer feature within the Zoom online meeting platform at this time. Members of the public who are present in person and wish to address the Committee should fill out a public comment form and turn into the meeting chairperson. When you are called upon to speak, state your name, address, and provide your comments to the Committee for their consideration. Please adhere to the 3-minute time limit. Additionally, you may send your public comments to public.works@mcfarland.wi.us to be included as part of the meeting.*

Members of the public may also speak during their selected agenda item as they designate on the public comment form or in the Question and Answer feature on Zoom.

None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

- a. *Motion to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2024, Parks & Recreation Committee meeting.*

Motion by Trustee Jerke, seconded by Trustee Fessler, to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2024, Parks & Recreation Committee meeting. Motion carries 7 - 0 - 0.

4. BUSINESS.

- a. *Presentation by McFarland Soccer Club*

Larry Gates, president of the McFarland Soccer Club, provided an overview of the McFarland Soccer Club.

- Trustee Fessler asked about the club's use of the shelter at William McFarland park. Gates responded that the club utilizes the shelter for their spring season, between April to June, then again during their fall season, between August to November.
- Trustee Jerke asked if the club had a website. Gates provided the website of mcfarlandsoccer.org.
- Lancaster asked if the club had requests for the Community Park. Gates stated that installing irrigation was appreciated, and additional requests may include lights, access or pathways to the park, and additional parking, as there is not enough parking for events.

b. Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding an expansion project at the McFarland Ice Arena and pursuing an agreement between the Village of McFarland and McFarland Hockey.

Schuenke provided an overview of the expansion project and potential agreement with McFarland Hockey, Inc. (MHI).

- Trustee Fessler asked if there would be additional risks that the Village would take on as part of the loan. Schuenke explained that if hockey failed to pay back the loan, the village would seize the assets and the village would hold the loan obligation.
- Trustee Jerke asked if the village had a process to assess the loan repayment ability by hockey. Schuenke stated that hockey would need to provide its financial records to bond counsel which would evaluate the financial history and ability to repay the loan.
- Trustee Jerke asked if west expansion continues to be of interest. Schuenke responded that expansion to the west is still desired but estimated it would be 20 years from now.
- Lancaster asked when construction would start. Schuenke explained construction would start this fall with parking lot improvements being completed in 2025 by the village.
- Trustee Fessler asked if the village would be taking on the expense of the parking lot improvements. Schuenke explained that in the agreement as presented, the village would take on the expense of the parking lot.
- Trustee Fessler asked if the parking lot improvements would be a capital expense or from another fund. Schuenke explained that parking lot improvements would be added to the paving and utility plan which would require approval by the Public Works & Utilities Committee, then added to the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for incorporation into the budget.

Motion by Trustee Jerke, seconded by Trustee Fessler, to recommend approval to the Village Board regarding an expansion project at the McFarland Ice Arena and pursuing an agreement between the Village of McFarland and McFarland Hockey. Motion and second rescinded by Trustee Jerke and Trustee Fessler.

Motion by Trustee Fessler, seconded by Trustee Jerke, to recommend approval to the Village Board regarding an expansion project at the McFarland Ice Arena and pursuing an agreement between the Village of McFarland and McFarland Hockey including repayment for the parking lot improvements.

c. Discussion regarding park and recreation improvements within Redevelopment Districts 1 & 2.

Steve Tremlett, of MSA, presented the updated concepts for McDaniel Park, Brandt Park, and Arnold Larson Park since the February 6, 2024, Parks & Recreation meeting.

- Committee members discussed the concept plans in relation to the possible filtration system at McDaniel Park and recommended the removal of parking stalls near the open-air shelter.
- Committee members reviewed options for Brandt Park including the parking lot location, designated location for the playground and basketball court, as well as possible parking scenarios on Erling Avenue. Committee members suggested including a sidewalk or pathway along Erling as well as a bike lane.

d. Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding purchasing bicycle racks for the Bashford Street public parking lot.

Bremer reviewed the quote from Graber Manufacturing for six bicycle racks for the Bashford Street public parking lot.

Motion by Trustee Jerke, seconded by Trustee Fessler, to recommend approval to the Village Board regarding the purchase order from Graber Manufacturing for bicycle racks for the Bashford Street public parking lot as presented. Motion carries 6 - 0 - 0.

e. Discussion regarding updates to the Village's Outdoor Recreation & Open Space Plan.

Bremer provided an overview of the initiative to update the Village's Outdoor Recreation & Open Space Plan, including the timeline, draft survey questions, and public information meeting.

- Trustee Jerke asked what style the public information meeting would be. Bremer explained the meeting would be an open-house style event.
- Trustee Fessler recommended including a question related to whether shelters are desired and where they would like the shelters to be added.

Thao explained additional questions would be added regarding safety.

Larson suggested a map of the parks be added. Bremer stated a map could be added to the beginning of the survey.

5. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE.

a. Tuesday, May 7, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

6. ADJOURNMENT.

Motion by Trustee Jerke, seconded by Rupert, to adjourn at 9:10 pm.

Pursuant to law, written notice of this meeting was given to the public and posted on the public bulletin board in accordance with Open Meetings Law.

Respectfully submitted,
Aimee Irwin
Assistant to the Public Works Director