

VILLAGE OF MCFARLAND

**Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes**

*Tuesday, July 1, 2025 - 6:30 PM*

**1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL.**

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

Members present: Trustee Leamy, Anita Iwanski, Tanya Lancaster, Lori Wisnicky, Anna Bartz

Members not present: Trustee Fessler, Sarah Kuba

Staff Present: Village Administrator Matt Schunke, Public Works Director Lee Igl, 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](mailto: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.*

No public appearances. Igl announced the scheduled Public Information Meeting regarding Prairie Place Park on Thursday, July 10th, beginning at 6:00 pm held at the Municipal Center Community Room.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

*a. Motion to approve the minutes of the Parks & Recreation Committee meeting from May 6, 2025.*

Motion by Trustee Leamy, seconded by Lancaster, to approve the minutes of the Parks & Recreation Committee meeting from May 6, 2025. Motion carries 5 - 0 - 0.

**4. BUSINESS.**

*a. Discussion regarding Prairie Place park*

Igl read a letter from Mike & Judy Catterall, 5521 Holscher Rd, regarding Prairie Place Park. The Catterall's expressed their thoughts regarding the proposed location in Juniper Ridge, safety concerns, and proximity to other neighborhood parks.

Blake Thiesen of Parkitecture provided an overview of the progress regarding Prairie Place Park, including the two location options. Igl shared that a natural playground was discussed and existing natural playground sites were viewed. Igl expressed his concerns regarding the issues found and safety concerns of a natural playground.

- Trustee Leamy asked if the enclosed cost estimates included the cost of fill for the sites. Blake explained that the cost estimates were for the playgrounds only.
- Trustee Leamy asked if the budget for the project was \$160,000. Blake responded that this was accurate.
- Schuenke expressed staff's concern regarding option one and its proximity to the multifamily unit building.
- Schuenke asked if the playground was all pour-in-place or hybrid. Blake responded that it could be hybrid and another way to possibly save costs would be a community build in which volunteers help construct the playground equipment.
- Iwanski asked how much of a savings it would be for a community build. Blake responded that it is estimated to save \$8,000.
- Trustee Leamy asked if any information had been received regarding the grant. Schuenke stated no response had been received.
- Bartz asked if fencing would be required by the stormwater basin if option two would be chosen. Igl responded that it would not be required.
- Trustee Leamy asked about the terrace buffer if option one would be chosen. Igl stated that the terrace is six feet plus the sidewalk width.
- Committee members discussed the two options and provided their suggestions for further development of the park plan. Committee members suggested obtaining public input during the Public Information meeting to review if option one would be the best option.

b. Discussion regarding Community Park building exterior options.

Ethan Mohoney of Iconica provided an overview of three options for the exterior of the shelter at Community Park.

- Trustee Leamy asked if option two or B was the cost-saving option. Mohoney responded that option B is estimated to save \$11,000 to \$12,000.
- Lancaster asked what option might have less ongoing maintenance. Mohoney explained that option B would likely require less ongoing maintenance, but there are limited color options for the stone.
- Blake Thiesen of Parkitecture asked what the color of the roof is in option B. Mohoney responded that the roof is presented as black but could be adjusted if desired.
- Committee members discussed the various options for exteriors and suggested moving forward with option B.

c. Introduction to and discussion of the proposed McFarland 2026-2030 Capital Improvement Plan.

Schuenke provided an overview of the Capital Improvement Plan process and reviewed

appendix D, which is the 10-year outlook plan.

- Bartz inquired why there are price fluctuations from year to year related to the playground and bathroom projects. Igl explained there are playgrounds that are larger or smaller that cause the pricing to fluctuate.
- Trustee Leamy asked why water would be helping to fund the Egner Park project. Schuenke explained that the Egner Park project involves updates to the pump house. Therefore, parks would cover roughly 25% of the project cost while water would cover the remaining.
- Trustee Leamy asked if the \$170,000 in 2027 under bathrooms was a duplicate of the \$175,000 in 2027 for Egner Park. Schuenke explained that the \$175,000 is for the design of Egner Park while the \$170,000 is for another bathroom site.
- Trustee Leamy expressed her concerns about aquatics being shown in the plan in 2035.
- Trustee Leamy asked why the village would be unable to help fund the aquatics project. Schuenke explained that funding could be looked at and evaluated with other projects or village plans.
- Iwanski asked why the project is in the plan if the village is not planning on funding the project. Schuenke explained that aquatics is included for continued discussions.
- Bartz asked if the Egner Park Project could be pushed to allow for aquatics and if aquatics could be at Community Park. Schuenke explained that a portion of the funding for the Egner Park Project is from the water utility and could not be utilized for aquatics. Schuenke explained that Community Park is on well and septic, and he is unsure if those can support aquatics.
- Committee members further discussed aquatics and how to have continued discussion about where the project is included in the plan. Schuenke explained that further direction would need to arrive from the Village Board and supported as part of the board's goals.

**5. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE.**

*a. Tuesday, August 5, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.*

**6. ADJOURNMENT.**

Motion by Trustee Leamy, seconded by Iwanski, to adjourn. By unanimous consent, the committee adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

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