



Watertown Park Commission Meeting

DeAnna Clemens
Terry Gallagher
Danette Painschab
Joel Skoog
Brad Kipp
Brian Lonquist
Adam Pawelk

11/17/2021 - Minutes

1. Call To Order And Roll Call

Park Commission Chair Danette Painschab called the Watertown Park Commission meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 17, 2021 in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Park Commission members present: Painschab, Terry Gallagher, Jack Lynch, and Brad Kipp.

Council liaison: Adam Pawelk.

Staff members present: City Administrator Jake Foster and Administrative Services Director Lynn Tschudi.

KIPP MOVED, GALLAGHER SECONDED A MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. ALL PRESENTED VOTED AYE, MOTION CARRIED.

2. New Business

2.A. Park Minutes From July 21, 2021

GALLAGHER MOVED, LYNCH SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM JULY 21, 2021. ALL PRESENT VOTED AYE, MOTION CARRIED.

2.B. Wildflower Park Replacement Concept

Administrative Services Director Lynn Tschudi said the Park Commission held a community engagement session at Wildflower Playground on August 18 where there were about six community members who attended to provide input on what they would like to see at the playground. Tschudi said overwhelmingly residents would like to see a shade structure and a portable restroom provided at the site.

Since August, staff has been able to budget additional funds for a Biff at Wildflower Playground for 2022 and Council has budgeted \$17,000 additional for the Wildflower Park improvements to accommodate a shade structure. The original budget of \$86,945 has now been increased to \$103,945 for this project.

Bailey Wolf from Flagship Recreation shared her screen virtually via Microsoft Teams to show the latest renderings of the Wildflower Playground based on the resident feedback. The design shows the 2-5 play area, a 5-12 play area, musical play equipment, swings, two saddle spinners, a cantilever shade, benches, garbage can, and engineered wood fiber fill for the container. Wolf said the musical play equipment was an add on that she heard from residents and can be a second phase if needed. Wolf noted that the saddle spinners are a popular item with the kids and would recommend keeping both if possible.

Tschudi said as the playground is shown, it is over budget by around \$25,000. Eliminating the musical equipment, one saddle spinner, and assigning as many labor tasks to City staff will bring the total closer to the budget of \$103,945.

Park commission discussed the shade structure and placement over the 2-5 play area. Wolf explained the placement is best over the younger area and one sitting bench. Wolf suggested looking at smaller shade structures to save money. Kipp would like to see the shade structure left at the largest size. Painschab would like Wolf to bring back the cost for all sizes of the shades.

Park commissioners decided to eliminate the musical play pieces and leave these as an add on for a later date. Tschudi asked Dressel to explain the cost savings for having the City pay for the fiber wood fill. Wolf said there are other savings to be had if the City staff is willing to do the labor. Tschudi said she will work with Wolf and Dressel to narrow down a price on what the City will complete and what Flagship Recreation/Landscape Structures will complete. Park Commission asked to bring the exact costs back to the next meeting.

3. Updates From Staff

New City Administrator Jake Foster introduced himself.

Administrative Services Director Tschudi updated that the Senate bonding committee and House bonding committee have both been out to visit the wastewater treatment facility. The City is hoping for direct appropriation funds for the project. She said the annual budget is wrapping up and the truth in taxation meeting will be December 7, 2021 at 6:30 pm.

4. Adjournment

GALLAGHER MOVED, KIPP SECONDED A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:17 PM. ALL PRESENT VOTED AYE, MOTION CARRIED.

Chair, Danette Painschab

Admin. Services Director, Lynn Tschudi