

Park Board
January 4, 2018

A regular meeting of the City of Waxahachie Park Board was held on Thursday, January 4, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. in the City Council Conference Room at City Hall, 401 S. Rogers, Waxahachie, Texas.

Members Present: Chad Hicks, Chairman
Ginger Cole, Vice Chairman
Coy B. Sevier
William Major
Byron Gibson

Member Absent: Betsy Engelbrechtsen

Others Present: John Smith, Director of Parks and Recreation
Lori Cartwright, City Secretary
David Hill, Council Representative

1. Call to Order

Chairman Chad Hicks called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of minutes of Park Board meeting of December 7, 2017

Action:

Mr. Coy Sevier moved to approve the minutes of the Park Board meeting of December 7, 2017. Vice Chairman Ginger Cole seconded, All Ayes.

3. Discuss Penn Park Design and take any necessary action

Mr. John Smith, Director of Parks and Recreation, referenced alternative methods for use of splash pad water at Penn Park and presented two options. Option 1 pertained to recirculating splash pad water totaling \$95,300 and Option 2 pertained to capturing portion of water for irrigation purposes totaling \$204,000.

Discussion was held and it was determined the most cost effective approach is to have the water discharged to the storm drain. Mr. Smith stated the water will drain back to the treatment plant. He stated \$175,000 is budgeted for the splash pad and City Council is ready to move forward.

Action:

Mr. Coy Sevier moved to approve the splash pad project with the original plan of water draining to the storm drain. Mr. William Major seconded, All Ayes.

4. Discuss Spring Park Design and take any necessary action

Mr. Smith reviewed a revised Spring Park design noting it provides additional parking spaces.

Chairman Hicks referenced the green space on the photo and asked if dirt can be brought in to make it functional. City Engineer James Gaertner stated dirt can be added to build it up noting it is not in the flood plain.

Mr. William Major asked if restrooms will be added in Spring Park. Mr. Smith stated City Council wants to get a crowd and traffic control count and once completed, they will consider restrooms.

Action:

After further discussion, Mr. Coy Sevier moved to approve parking design number 4 for Spring Park. Vice Chairman Ginger Cole seconded, All Ayes.

5. Discuss Old Howard Road and take any necessary action

Chairman Hicks stated at the last meeting lake property owners living near Old Howard Road reported people cross their property to get to the lake and leave debris behind. He stated Old Howard Road is a Farm-to-Market Road and poses difficulties to us as a City. Chairman Hicks explained the City does own 50 feet around the area and therefore we can investigate activity. He stated the City is considering putting a light at the road for security and it can be aimed at the location where people gather. Mr. Smith stated the Parks and Recreation crew will provide clean up on the city side.

Property owners in attendance requested to fence across the state property to keep trespassers out. Mr. Smith stated it is a public right-of-way and access has to be allowed to public property.

No action taken.

6. Discuss park activities and take any necessary action

Mr. Smith reported Integrity Tree Repair is in Getzendaner Park looking for dead limbs and trimming trees. He stated a tree climbing and trimming competition is planned for May 2018.

Mr. Smith stated he and Mr. Chris Seale, City Horticulturalist, will start the tree planting program.

Mr. Smith reported he has a new program to increase the maintenance of the City Parks. Eight park crew members will go around mowing and another group of five will be picking up trash and restroom cleanup.

Mr. Seale reported the Texas Parks and Wildlife will be out to add more fish to the pond at the Sports Complex.

Mr. Smith presented pictures of Boat Dock Park depicting new installed bumper post. He presented a sign package for the park noting the project is well under budget.

No action taken.

7. Review Camping Ordinance and take any necessary action

Mr. Smith reviewed a proposed Camping Ordinance noting overnight camping is allowed at Lake Waxahachie and explained the Ordinance provides language whereas a camping permit will be required by the Director of Parks and Recreation.

Action:

Mr. Coy Sevier moved to approve proposed Camping Ordinance as presented. Mr. William Major seconded, All Ayes.

8. Public Comments

None

9. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Cartwright
City Secretary