

**MINUTES
JOINT PARK BOARD/TOWN BOARD MEETING
JUNE 20, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 p.m.

Present: Josephson, Koster, Lee, Reeves, Sinclair; Public Works Director: Reed;
Planner: Riedesel; Town Board Supervisors: Prudhon and Ruzek.

Absent: Akenson, Lombardi; Town Board Supervisor: McCune, all with notice.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Additions/Deletions): Josephson moved approval of the agenda as submitted with the supplemental information for Bellaire Beach and the addition of 11A) Emerald Ash Borer Management. Sinclair seconded. Ayes all.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 16, 2019: Lee moved the approval of the Minutes of May 16, 2019. Sinclair seconded. Ayes all.

PARK TOUR: Columbia Park: The Board visited this joint neighborhood and community park filled with Tennis courts, a soccer field, a ball field, playground equipment, a stormwater treatment system, wide open space and more. There was discussion on what park improvements are on the docket for 2020, noting specifically the parking lot is scheduled to be improved with added spaces. It was noted that about \$200,000 will be requested for Columbia Park in the 2020 budget.

Summit Lane: Resident Marilyn Svee was present to give her input about the park. There was discussion of the few complaints the town has received. There was also discussion of the kayak rack. Currently there are three residents who have rented the three spaces on the rack, but due to lack of locks or equipment to tie down to the two-posted rack, no one has been housing their kayaks at Summit Lane. There was discussion of staff reaching out to those residents and returning their money in exchange for their spot, then reaching out to those next in line for the rental space. Staff will be in contact with those residents.

Bellaire Beach: The new beach house looked well done as the Board toured the structure. There was discussion and a consensus that Staff will get a watermark of the Township's logo to go on either side of the beach house. Staff walked around and discussed the stormwater treatment pond. If money weren't an object, Riedesel would like to get a subterranean pond below the parking lot and expand the playground area.

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There was discussion on some park improvements for 2020. The parking lot was budgeted for 2019, but with the Saputo shelter and the shoreline improvement project being considered, the Board will wait until the following year for any parking lot improvements. It was also noted that Public Works Staff will get a tot swing put up next to the handicapped swing.

Four Seasons Park: The Board discussed future park projects for this park. There was discussion of the tree in the left field beyond the foul line needing to be taken out eventually. It was noted that the construction shed on the grass by the road behind the dugouts will need to come down. This is a temporary utility company shed being used for maintenance. The Board will contact the company as it is not the Township's shed.

Mead Park: The Board noticed the nice play structure at Mead and discussed the possibility of installing something similar in size at Bellaire someday. There was also discussion of the trees that need to come out of this park, but the Board plans to replace these trees with trees from Tree Trust.

TOWNSHIP DAY / MOVIE IN THE PARK: Lisa Beecroft had a conflict but did send updates that were provided at the meeting. It was the consensus that Beecroft's progress and updates on Township Day looked good. Beecroft has gotten sponsors such as Lucy's (\$500), Viking Auto (\$500), the Animal Hospital (\$500), Herold's Precision Metals (\$500) and others. It was noted that the members of the Commissions and Boards will thank the sponsors whenever possible for their contribution to the community. It was also noted that there will be a makeup day for the June Movie in the Park on July 27th.

POLAR LAKES PARK – LOUCKS PROPOSAL – FITNESS COURT: The Town Planner received the proposal from Loucks Agreement for Conceptual Site Layout and Design Services Proposal including the playground. The total project will run between \$7,200 and \$9,300. Only once the Park Board has Town Board approval will it move forward with any agreement with Loucks. **Fitness Court:** There was discussion of other fitness options rather than the National Fitness Campaign. GameTime estimate is included in the packet and would be about \$57,650.00 plus the cost of the cement slab, which is under half the cost of what the National Fitness Campaign would have cost, even with the grant. There will be more discussion at July's meeting.

Polar Lakes Park Restrooms: There was discussion of seeing what Loucks or GameTime could propose to the Township as far as pricing of restrooms go. The Board talked about vandalism and security. It was the consensus that Staff will reach out to Loucks and GameTime. There will be more discussion at July's meeting.

The Park Board and Town Board took a short recess for pizza, beginning at 8:12 and ending at 8:28 p.m.

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BELLAIRE BEACH: The Proposal from Ramsey County Soil and Watershed District was in the supplemental packet consisting of the Shoreline Management Program. The shore at Bellaire Beach is eroded away. This proposal shows a type of “bluff” improvement to the beach area. There was discussion about the paved access area and the church’s input on Bellaire Beach. It was the consensus that Staff would reach out to a master planner to see what upgrades should be done to Bellaire.

Josephson motioned to recommend to the Town Board to pursue a master planner to work on Bellaire Beach Park. Reeves seconded. Ayes all.

SUMMIT LANE – NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING – BIRCHWOOD – DOGS ON EASEMENTS: Riedesel summarized the Town’s history with Summit Lane. It isn’t an easement, it’s actually Town property. It is unique to say the least, it is the only gated park. Summit Lane is open May 1 through October 1, from half an hour before dawn to half an hour after dusk. The Town has received 4 complaints regarding Summit Lane: 2 from a neighbor regarding dogs on the property, 1 requesting additional kayak spaces, and 1 from a resident who got locked out after dusk. There hasn’t been any plans to improve the park as Summit Lane is in the 2024 Capital Improvement Program’s Projects.

There was discussion on the City of Birchwood and how the city changed its rules to allow dogs in all parks as long as they are on a leash. There was discussion of the kayak rack. Currently there are three residents who have rented the three spaces on the rack, but due to lack of locks or equipment to tie down to the two-post rack, no one has been housing their kayaks at Summit Lane. There was discussion of staff reaching out to those residents and returning their money in exchange for their spot, then reaching out to those next in line for the rental space. Staff will be in contact with those residents.

Sinclair made the motion for Staff to contact the residents to see if they want their money back, and contact the next in line for kayak spots. Lee seconded. Ayes all.

There will be a Neighborhood Meeting scheduled at the July Park Board meeting. Staff will reach out to the neighbors and kayak renters of Summit Lane.

CIP REVIEW: The Town Planner explained that Tom Kelly, the Town’s Finance Officer, will be providing staff with budget and CIP requests in preparation of the 2020 budget. He wants the Park Board to be thinking about potential park projects that need to be considered and then the Finance Officer will come up with a CIP and budget scheduling those projects.

The 2019 projects were discussed, as were the trail projects, like West Bald Eagle trail next year. A question was brought up regarding the Park Acquisition Fund and how that relates to the Capital Improvement Program. Since the Town is 98% developed, acquiring new property other than for one additional park in the Garley Park neighborhood is unlikely. There was discussion on using some CIP funds for the Polar

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Lakes Park Restrooms project. It was the consensus that the Park Board and Staff will be considering which park projects to discuss at the July meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR REPORT: The Public Works Director was present to discuss the Public Works Director Report in regards to Parks Projects and to answer any questions. The **Bellaire Beach house** interior and exterior work, including painting, has been completed. The **tennis courts** have been painted. The **trails** along White Bear Parkway, Hammond Road, Centerville Road, Otter Lake Road, Polar Lakes Park and Columbia Park will be sealcoated in 2019. The Public Works Director is working on specification for the project to be approved by the Town Board. Discussion of a Township **EAB Management Plan** will be continued.

ADDED AGENDA ITEMS: Steve Reeves reported that the pollinator Friendly Alliance reached out to him and wanted to commend the Town on the Resolution passed last year regarding pesticides and every pollinator friendly approach the Town is taking. It was also Pollinator Week, and there was an article in the *White Bear Press*.

Josephson moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 p.m. Reeves seconded. Ayes all.

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan R. Cavanaugh
Recording Secretary