

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 18, 2008 – 6:30 p.m.

Chairman Perkins called the meeting to order. Committee members present: Perkins, Marzahl, Szczap and Adams. Also present were Mayor Nolan, Alderman Logan, City Clerk Wells, City Administrator Nelson and Supt. Parks and Recreation Burkart. Present on behalf of the Boys League was John Condon and on behalf of Harvard Milk Days were Mike Bannwolf and Dennis Bischke.

Boys League Request

John Condon presented the Boys League request to run a 1½" water line from the City's water main to the south dugout on the Boys League big field which will be used to water the fields to keep the dust down. The City would be responsible from the water main to the B-Box and the Boys League would be responsible from the B-Box to the hydrant. The line would be trenched in and labor provided by the Boys League under the supervision of a licensed plumber. Administrator Nelson said the City's cost would be about \$250 plus two hours time and backhoe. The City would not charge the Boys League for water but would meter the water usage which is anticipated to be no more than \$100/year. Moved by Marzahl, seconded by Adams to approve the Boys League request as presented including the authorization for the use of the Public Works Department to assist. All ayes. Motion carried.

Harvard Milk Days' Proposal to Construct a Building at Milky Way Park

Supt. Burkart reviewed the estimated cost for Milk Days' proposal to construct a pole barn at Milky Way Park and noted the issue of the concrete floor. Bob did not feel that the Milk Day Board could financially cover the cost of a concrete floor which is estimated at \$16,000. Milk Day Board Member Denny Bischke related a conversation with the Cattle Show Chairman Bill Olbrich who said that cement would be okay, but he would prefer compacted limestone for the cattle show. Denny related some of the concerns with a cement floor which becomes slippery when wet. Milk Day Board President Mike Bannwolf related his conversations with Community Development Director Santeler with respect to ADA compliance and referred to a letter he received from Brandon Marvin, Plant Service Coordinator at Deans Illinois Dairy LLC, Chemung Plant to confirm that crushed limestone is a sufficient walking surface that is more than capable of providing a stable walking surface which would comply with ADA guidelines. Mike also read from a letter he received from the building's engineer, M and M Engineering, that states that limestone when applied properly can be used as an acceptable ADA surface. Mike also noted that Boone County Fairgrounds has many buildings that have the 3/8" crushed limestone surface which are ADA compliant. Mike stated that Milk Days is in a position to take care of the proposed structure along with Deans as a partner as it was laid out at the initial meeting. Mike indicated that Milk Day was not making a request for a concrete floor and felt that a limestone surface would be more than sufficient and would be ADA compliant.

Administrator Nelson related City staff's quandary in that Community Development Director Santeler had a conversation with the consultant the City uses in Springfield for handicapped accessibility in every public project the City does. His determination was that crushed limestone is not a verified surface for handicapped accessibility and that it needs to be hard surfaced, either blacktop and/or concrete. Administrator Nelson noted that the City is not trying to stop the project, but limit the liability to the municipal corporation. In addition, there are civil penalties with violating the handicapped accessibility code. The Committee discussed whether or not the letters Milk Day presented would be sufficient to proceed with limestone with a suggestion that the City fax the letters to the state enforcement agency in Springfield to get a certified letter of clearance to proceed with limestone. Administrator Nelson said that the ADA did not necessarily require that the entire floor to be concreted, only that portion where the public would be viewing the cattle. Administrator Nelson noted that the City Council has already authorized staff to proceed once it meets with the code. Mayor Nolan noted that the City did not call the meeting to stop Milk Day's project but to try and help Milk Day with the project to see if the Parks & Recreation Committee would be willing to spend the \$16,000-\$20,000 for the concrete floor. There was discussion as to whether or not Milk Day would still be able to put up the building this spring. Mike stated if Milk Day can get approval this week, the building could still be ordered and built for this year.

The general consensus was for Mike to meet with Community Development Director Santeler to get either a certified letter of approval from the state enforcement agency in Springfield to proceed with the crushed limestone based on the documentation Milk Days has pertaining to ADA compliance, or in the event crushed limestone is not an acceptable ADA surface, Milk Days would put in a 10' strip of concrete down the center for public viewing with limestone on either side for cattle; the City would pick up the cost up to \$5,000 for the concrete out of the impact fee fund.

Other Financial Considerations

Chairman Perkins noted a handout on the City of Woodstock's definitions of user groups and deposit requirements and fees. Administrator Nelson said that discussion was not imminent but the City needs to discuss other ideas and

cannot continue to operate the park system with its current funding structure. Supt. Burkart brought up the increasing issue of non-residents making up a large part of the youth user groups.

At 6:58 p.m., moved by Marzahl, seconded by Perkins to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

Submitted by:
Darrell Perkins, Chairman