

MINUTES

FORT MADISON PARKS, RECREATION AND DOCK BOARD REGULAR MEETING – WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2019 CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 5:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Decker, Paul Wilkerson, Hugh Vandegriff, Ashley Balmer

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sue Pieper

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Larry Driscoll, David Varley, Andrew McFall

GUESTS PRESENT: Chuck Vandenburg, Rusty Andrews

CALL TO ORDER: by Chairman Decker

Approval of Minutes: Prior minutes were approved

Public Comments: None

Old Business:

- 1) Resignation of Parks Board Member, Mike Pulis. Jacqueline Lumsden has showed interest in serving on the Parks Board. Larry will drop off an application for her.
- 2) Marina: As in prior years, the City is still offering a discount for boat slips when the fee is paid by March 1, 2019. The City is planning on hiring an employee for the marina during the boating season. The majority of marina revenue is from slip rentals. The City hopes to rent out 50 or more slips this boating season.

Board Member Wilkerson MOVED and Vandegriff SECONDED a motion to approve Old Business and MOTION CARRIED.

New Business:

- 1) **RIVERFEST:** Charles Craft has accepted the contract for Riverfest 2019. The major change for this contract is that the fee has increased from \$25 to \$400, with a 3-year agreement, beginning next year. The Riverfest Committee has shown interest in doing park updates – with electrical work being their main focus. Mohrfeld Electric, Alliant Energy and Rusty Andrews have donated time and energy for this. With the City's approval, the plan is to let Riverfest have their own electric meter (instead of separating it out). The meter will be in Riverfest's name and turned off and pulled after the event is over. There was discussion regarding how Rodeo is billed (the City reads the meter and bills them separately). Board Member Vandegriff MOVED and Balmer SECONDED a motion to approve the Riverfest contract.
- 2) **PARK SHELTER RENTALS:** Shelter rentals were discussed. Larry handed out an updated Shelter Rental Agreement vs. the old Agreement. Discussion was to eliminate the shelter rental fees for the shelters that were used less than 5 times last year. There will be no shelter rent rate increases for at least another two years. Because the shelters are not being rented, there is no revenue loss for the City. There was discussion about hanging up a sign directly on the shelter indicating when the shelter is reserved. Board Member Vandegriff MOVED and Wilkerson SECONDED the motion to approved the new Shelter Rental Agreement.

- 3) **BALLFIELDS:** More and more people are showing interest in traveling ball teams using the fields. Andrew and Larry will propose what to do in each park and what to expect in improvements for the next 3-5 years (removing and/or refurbishing). Donations and volunteers will be needed. The future of the Victory Field press-box was discussed. Plans are in the works to improve the City ballfields, and possibly eliminate the ballfield at Shopton Park. Enough funds are budgeted for the removal of two trees in Old Settler's Park and two in Central Park. Hoenig's Tree Service removed 13 trees in Rodeo Park last year. "Tree City USA" was discussed. More discussion on this at the next meeting.
- 4) **RODEO PARK & SCENIC DRIVE:** Driscoll brought up the subject of keeping Rodeo Park and Scenic Drive open all year round. This Park is popular for frisbee golf. Currently, the Police Department is responsible for locking the gate at night, and the Parks Department unlocks the gate in the morning. Signage would indicate the Park is open 7a.m.-9 p.m. Council Member Vandegriff MOVED and Council Member Balmer SECONDED the motion to leave Rodeo Park and Scenic Drive open all year. MOTION CARRIED.
- 5) **INTRODUCTION OF NEW PARKS DIRECTOR:** The new Parks Director, Andrew McFall, was introduced. He will be scheduling Park Board meetings in different parks.

Parks Update:

Jim Decker expressed concern about the limited supply of toilet paper for Old Settler's Park. Larry will see that some gets delivered there.

Wilkerson MOVED and Vandegriff SECONDED a motion to adjourn. MOTION CARRIED. The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Jim Decker, Chairperson