

**MINUTES**  
**FORT MADISON PARKS, RECREATION & DOCK BOARD**  
**SPECIAL MEETING – THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2013**  
**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 5:00PM**  
**FORT MADISON, IOWA**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tara Johnson, Mike Pulis, Jim Decker, Sheila Garcia,

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jesus Garcia, Bobby Holtkamp, Lauri Wondra,  
Council Liaison Brian Wright

**CITY STAFF PRESENT:** John Luna, Dawn Helling

**GUEST PRESENT:** City Manager Byron Smith

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Johnson at 5:00 p.m.

City Manager Byron Smith asked for the Parks Board to have a special meeting so he could share about the City bond issue. The parks portion is \$1,000,000.00 to spend on park improvements. The ideas originally proposed by the City Council are as follows:

- New playground equipment at the parks.
- Electrical upgrade at Rodeo Campground.
- Rodeo Corporation would like to upgrade the shower house at Scenic Drive. Rodeo Corporation will pay 25%. The cost for this is around \$80,000.00.
- Refurbish the tennis courts at Victory Park. Cost for this is approximately \$100,000.00.
- Would like to add more items to Riverview Park and Rodeo Park but they have to be specific for grants, etc. The cost to implement this plan is approximately \$15,000.00-\$20,000.00.

City Manager Smith shared that as long as the money is used for park improvements it can be flexible as long as City Council approves. Johnson asked if we have gotten a price on dredging the marina and if the money can be used for that. City Manager Smith and Luna shared FEMA will fund some of the dredging since the sediment was caused from flooding. Johnson shared the marina would be a good focus. She has noticed the docks and slip fingers are in bad condition. Pulis shared plastic wood would be better. City Manager Smith shared they are proposing to revamp The Dock building. The first floor will have bathrooms and showers and it wouldn't hurt it if it floods. The second floor would be the restaurant. This will be funded through FEMA and the insurance company. He also shared there will be some FEMA funding to move the jetty so only the mouth of the marina will need to be dredged in the future. Johnson asked how many stalls the shower house at Rodeo Park will have. City Manager Smith shared at this time they are thinking one stall for women and one stall for men then a unisex one but Rodeo Corporation would like to have more than one stall so they are looking into it. They want something that is hard to damage. Garcia shared the ones at Lake Geode are nice and since there are families that like to camp it would be nice if there are multiple stalls for the shower house. City Manager Smith said they are looking into more stalls and locking it in the winter. Decker shared bathrooms are vandalized more than anything else in parks. City Manager Smith said they are looking into stainless steel sinks instead of porcelain and ways to make it vandal proof. He also shared they will approach the Old Settlers Association and Rotary and ask them for ideas. The full amount that is allotted for playgrounds can be used elsewhere if not all is spent. An item it can be spent on is cameras for the parks. The cost will be approximately \$5,000.00-\$7,000.00. There is a possibility of adding a playground at the end of Scenic Drive where the disc golf

courses start. Pulis shared it was great there are funds to be put into the parks. City Manager Smith share the mayor suggest using some of the bond for park improvements. It will take a few years to complete the parks projects. They will find a couple different firms to give estimates on Riverview Park and Rodeo Park. They will also start getting bids on playground equipment. He also shared he would like to have each park's playground look different. Luna said they talked about going with a rubber surface versus cement. City Manager Smith shared he was glad he could meet with the parks board to share about the bond funds. He will want the boards opinion an improvements.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

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Tara Johnson, Chairperson