

Public Works Committee Minutes
Tuesday, September 8, 2009 – 8:30 a.m.
Department of Public Works Committee Room
3715 Newville Road - Janesville, WI

Call to Order. Chair Yankee called the meeting of the Public Works Committee to order at 8:30 a.m.

Committee Members Present: Supervisors Arnold, Bussie, Diestler, Ott and Yankee

Committee Members Absent: None

Parks Advisory Committee Members: Gina Cook, Tom Presny and Floyd Finney

Parks Advisory Committee Members Absent: None

Staff Members Present: Ben Coopman, Public Works Director
Deb Lawton, Secretary
Lori Williams, Parks Director

Others Present: None

Approval of Agenda. Supervisors Ott and Diestler moved the agenda. MOTION CARRIED.

Approval of Minutes of August 11, 2009. Supervisors Bussie and Diestler moved the minutes. MOTION CARRIED.

Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements. Supervisor Arnold mentioned the Land Conservation Committee voted to decline the resolution brought up at the Finance Committee that would reallocate \$250,000 of funding from the Parks and Land Conservation Fund for use in the 2010 Budget. Discussion.

Consider Carver-Roehl Driveway Project Amendments to Contract with MSA. Supervisors Diestler and Arnold moved the amendments. Parks Director Williams stated Amendment #1 authorizes MSA to prepare documentation for Trans 207 permits in regards to the WDNR and Corp of Engineers at a cost of \$1,050. Amendment #2 provides for engineering services for the detailed design of replacement culvert pipes on Carver Roehl Park Road over Spring Brook, Town of Bradford, Rock County, including preparation of bid documents, at a lump sum cost of \$7,500. Funds to cover the cost of these amendments would come from the Capital Improvements Account. MOTION CARRIED.

Appraisal of 5-Arch Bridge Project. Supervisors Arnold and Diestler moved to proceed with the appraisal. Parks Director Williams stated the appraisal would cost between \$1,200 and \$1,500. The appraisal is for 6.8 acres. Discussion. MOTION CARRIED.

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Appraisal of Gibbs Lake Addition. Supervisors Ott and Bussie moved to proceed with the appraisal. Cost would be between \$1,200 and \$1,500. The appraisal is for a 1.2 acre parcel. Discussion. MOTION CARRIED.

Request from Friends of Beckman Mill, Incorporated. Supervisors Arnold and Diestler moved the request.

The FBM Board voted in August 2009 to ask Rock County to pay all heating and electric costs at the Park. Presently, per 2003-2013 written Agreement, FBM pays all utilities except for the Pavilion. The main complaint appears to be that heating and electric costs associated with frequent use of public toilets on the north side of the Creamery are currently being paid for by Friends of Beckman Mill. No figures are available for the bathroom component alone. FBM reports the annual heating and electric cost for at the whole park is around \$4,000.

In response to that request, an informal meeting was held to discuss how the Friends of Beckman Mill and Rock County might reapportion electric and heating (propane) costs at Beckman Mill County Park. Those present included: Sheri Disrud (President, Friends of Beckman Mill), Mike Guisleman (Rock County Parks retired, former FBM board member), Lori Williams (Parks Director), Rob Baller (Parks Community Coordinator).

A consensus from the meeting was reached that:

- 1) Director Williams will attempt to find funds in the 2009 Parks' budget to pay up to only one-half (1/2) of the annual gas bill each year until 2013.
- 2) When the new parking lot lights are installed later this year the County will move their electric meter from the pavilion to the Creamery utility room, and the County will begin paying for the Creamery, Barn, new parking lot lights, as well as the pavilion.

Discussion. Mr. Coopman drew a sketch of where the meters are currently located and explained how it impacts the new parking lot lights to be installed yet this year.

Parks Director Williams explained this agreement would be signed by both parties and attached to the current agreement. More discussion. MOTION CARRIED.

Review Proposed 2010 Park Fee Rates. Discussion on proposed rates took place. This will be placed on a future agenda for action.

Review Proposed 2010 New Park Fees. The Committee discussed possible new fees. The Committee was not in favor of a daily or annual park user fee. Discussion on Horse Trail Fees took place. Discussion on Special Event Fees and Special Group Overnight Camping Fees took place. Supervisor Ott asked Mr. Presny if the City of Janesville has a special event fee and Mr. Presny stated yes, they do.

This will be placed on a future agenda for action.

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Parks Director Report. Parks Director Williams went over her report with the Committee. Mrs. Cook asked about the keys for Sweet-Allyn County Park mentioned in the Parks Director Report. Parks Director Williams stated the Turtle Community Organization has not returned the keys they borrowed for their 4th of July event. The Committee recommended follow-up action, including billing them for new keys and time spent by the Parks Director tracking down these keys.

In response to a question from the Committee, Parks Director Williams discussed encroachment on the Ice Age Trail. The area was used as a personal dumping ground by several neighbors. The Sheriff's Department was notified and appropriate action taken.

Parks Advisory Committee Remarks. Mr. Finney stated he received a positive comment about clean restrooms at Gibbs Lake Park.

Mrs. Cook stated she received appreciative comments from those fishing at Indianford County Park and being able to do so without a fee.

Mr. Presny discussed the recent walks across Rock County on the Ice Age Trail. They reached the Green County line last week on their final walk. He looks forward to getting the trail off the road.

Next Meeting Date. Tuesday, October 13, 8:30 a.m. The Highway meeting will be changed from October 8 to Thursday, October 15, due to a budget meeting conflict.

Adjournment. Supervisors Arnold and Ott moved to adjourn at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra A. Lawton
Secretary