

PARKS COMMISSION MEETING
Lincoln Township Community Center Pavilion
5575 South Roosevelt Road
Stevensville, Michigan 49127

Tuesday, July 11, 2006

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gardner at 7:10 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Todd Gardner, Kim Risk, Rick Knight, Bill Tucker, and John Hoskins. **ABSENT:** Mike Lucker and Rich Knapp.

ALSO PRESENT: Bruno and Debra Trapikas, Jamie Balkin, Pattie Warren, Ed Von Koenig, Debbie Bly, Scott Smith, Tom Norbey, Tami Smith, Jen Koeppel, Pamela Womeldorf, Ruth Womeldorf, Karen Reinhardt, Larry Ward, Jim Bowman, Nichole Thiele, Mary Jo Carlson, Gil Urban, C.B Haack, Julie Ellering, Laura Ellering, William Hart, Mark Lehmann, Mari Maloney Watkins, Patrick Grayam, Dave Tarnowski, and additional soccer supporters.

Opening – Audience Comments: Gil Urban requested a discussion of soccer concerns be included on the agenda. Gardner, seconded by Knight, made a **MOTION** to add Soccer on the agenda under New Business for a 15-30 minute discussion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Secretary's Report: Gardner, seconded by Tucker, made a **MOTION** to approve minutes from the June 5, 2006, Sports Complex Workshop and the June 6, 2006, Parks Commission meeting as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Treasurer's Report: Parks bills received from the township total \$5,353.46. Invoices from Best Way and Pooch Welding were removed for Knight to look into. Additional bills to turn in total \$4,422.92, leaving an Operations Budget balance of \$104,164.11. Capital Budget balance is \$70,545, with \$30,000 committed for land loan payment.

Knight, seconded by Tucker, made a **MOTION** to pay bills as presented in the amount of \$4,978.06 and additional bills totaling \$4,422.92. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Knight reported pay phone has been removed from Glenlord Beach and should result in an estimated yearly savings of \$1,000. He recommended the Executive Committee meet soon to set budget priorities and forecast rest of fiscal year.

Report of Officers: Tucker reported the postcards promoting the new parks website are printed and ready for mailing.

Risk reported reservation fees to rent picnic shelters at the Community Park and North Lake Park will take effect as of October 1st this year. Reservations will be accepted from township residents beginning October 1st on a first-come, first-serve basis. Beginning November 1st, non-township residents may place reservations. Commission agreed the Parks office will handle the picnic shelter reservations as of October 1st and the township office will not accept any reservations past that date. Fees and rental information will be added to the Parks website and published in the next township newsletter.

Old Business: No reports.

New Business: Chairman introduced Bruno and Debra Trapikas representing USASA, the United States Adult Soccer Association. Mr. Trapikas explained a proposal for hosting the Regional Finals of the USASA National Cups Competition, June 14-17, 2007, at the Rockey Weed Sports Complex and presented an information package. Locally, the Blossomland adult soccer league participates in USASA. The weekend competition would include 40-60 teams playing preliminary games on Friday and Saturday at the Rockey Weed fields, with final games on Sunday played at the Upton Middle School stadium.

Jamie Balkin of the Cornerstone Chamber of Commerce spoke of this event offering an opportunity to showcase our community and benefit our local hotels and restaurants. Mrs. Trapikas stated a desire to take this regional competition out of big cities, such as Chicago and Dayton, and bring it to a smaller, resort-type town. Over 1,000 players, officials, administrators and spectators are expected to attend.

Mr. Trapikas stated the key to hosting this event is the availability of the soccer fields. The two local soccer organizations, LYSL and SWM, have indicated they will not be using the fields on the tournament days and will provide support. Discussed local resources and possible tournament costs. Specific hosting requirements are listed in the proposal. Gardner asked for a committee to work on needs for hosting the tournament.

Tucker, seconded by Gardner, made a **MOTION** to agree to have the Rockey Weed soccer fields available for the USASA Regional Finals June 14-17, 2007, and to form a committee with Debbie Bly from LYSL and Kim Risk from Parks to address tournament needs and report to Parks Commission a week ahead of August 1st meeting, pending final decision for hosting the tournament at that meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Soccer Concerns – Gil Urban introduced himself and explained that local soccer supporters asked him to address the commission on their behalf. He stated friction between soccer and the commission is apparent after the last Parks meeting, and supporters came tonight for clarification of several issues mentioned in the June 6 minutes.

Chairman Gardner proceeded to answer questions regarding soccer obligations that were not met in prior years, interim field rental fees, and the solicitation of bids from private entities or soccer associations to run a recreational soccer program. After much discussion and disagreement, Urban asked the commission to make the field rental fee language more specific and to consider rescinding the motion to solicit bids, which local soccer people felt was inappropriate given their amount of support over the years.

Gardner said the fundamental problem existing between soccer and Parks is based on funding. He recommended the soccer supporters organize to work on fundraising and share costs of future investments at the fields. Tucker apologized to Scott Smith for inflammatory comments. Urban suggested an advisory committee to work on soccer issues and put together a master agreement to build soccer in the community. Risk stated the need to move forward and work together and offered to chair a project committee for the soccer/football fields' bathrooms and concession stand facility. Anyone interested in serving on the committee should contact Risk or Debbie Bly.

(Meeting recessed at 9:09 p.m. and resumed at 9:44 p.m.)

Equipment – Tucker submitted for review proposals to buy a tractor and a deck mower. In accordance with Parks Resolution #2006-04-11-1 (Procedures for Approval of Invoices/Expenditures), any proposal in excess of \$5,000 must be introduced a month before a vote may be taken.

The tractor proposal calls for a front end loader not to exceed \$35,000; a lease with purchase option or financing with monthly payment not to exceed \$650; and the sale or trade of

2 existing tractors and mowers that are obsolete. The Zero Turn mower proposal calls for a 60-inch deck mower not to exceed \$9,000; and a lease with purchase option or financing with monthly payment not to exceed \$250.

Petty Cash – Tucker reported difficulty in obtaining a manual check to pay for postal service. Risk, seconded by Hoskins, made a **MOTION** to approve up to \$1600 to Lake Michigan mailers to mail postcards at best possible rate to Lincoln Township carrier routes. Petty cash **ACTION TABLED**.

Rescind Baseball License Agreement for Hitting Facility – **ACTION TABLED**.

Parks Maintenance: Gardner stated concern about dead trees posing safety hazards in several parks. Risk will obtain quotes for tree work at the road-end beaches, North Lake Park, and Lincoln Township Beach.

Glenlord Beach – Hoskins reported work crews are scheduled to tear down the decking on July 27 and 28 and August 4 and 10. The cost is \$176 per day for supervision. The work crew will take down as much as possible, leaving only the 2-story structure in place. Commission agreed for Hoskins to schedule the work crew another week in case more days are needed.

Baseball/Softball Fields – No report.

Soccer Fields – Commission authorized Hoskins to make decision on fertilizing soccer fields. Debbie Bly will obtain a proposal. Hoskins reported repairs made to sprinkler system and replacement of two control panels.

Parks House Site – Discussed repairs needed to prepare house for rental. **ACTION TABLED**.

Announcements: None.

Adjournment: **MOTION** to adjourn was made by Knight at 10:34 p.m.

Date _____
Submitted by Kimberly Risk
Parks Commission Secretary

Date _____
Approved by Commission
Todd Gardner, Parks Commission Chair