

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the special meeting of the Brainerd Park Board was called to order at 4:02 p.m. by Board President Rushmeyer.

The following members were noted as present: Boeder, Shipe, Yeager, Rushmeyer, and City Council Liaison Dave Badeaux. Member Schaefer was noted absent.

Also noted present were City Engineer/Public Works Director Dehn and Finance Director Hillman.

Approval of the Agenda - Approved

MOVED AND SECONDED BY MEMBERS YEAGER AND BOEDER, DULY CARRIED, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

Unfinished Business

Discussion on 2023 Capital Budget Request – Direction Given

Ms. Hillman reported the City Council would like the levy to be much lower than the preliminary levy that was adopted. All departments have been asked to review their 2023 capital for what possibly can wait. She suggested looking at the larger requests on the capital list such as the Memorial Park field lights. It is also anticipated that projects that go out to bid will come back higher than what is currently planned. The City Council is meeting tonight to discuss the ARPA funding. The Park Board has \$947,500 in the 2023 capital budget, and over \$1,000,000 in ARPA asks, for a total capital request of \$1.9 million. Council is hopefully going to decide tonight how much is ARPA and how much is 2023 capital, so the Board can discuss items now or wait and see what Council decides.

Mr. Dehn said that the Maintenance Foreman is very concerned about the lights at Memorial and the ability to keep them running for next year's softball. The Board had asked staff to check on other lighting options. Mr. Dehn said an alternate option is to retrofit the existing poles with new heads. As discussed at the previous meeting, there would be a reduction in price but also a reduction in the warranty. We would also have to pay the cost if they needed to be adjusted. He said it is very difficult to come up with alternative field lighting unless they want to consider portable trailers with lights. Ms. Hillman suggested considering increasing team fees to help cover the cost of the lights. She mentioned the Jaycees and Memorial pavilions as larger items to consider pushing out if they go ahead with the lighting request.

Mr. Yeager asked how much time they would have to work on the primary budget following the Council's ARPA discussion. Ms. Hillman said the Council has to adopt a final budget before the end of December, so the Park Board can discuss and finalize its budget at the October and November meetings. The consensus is to meet after the Council's ARPA discussion and staff was directed to do further research on the field lights, utility costs at the fields, and what the energy savings would be with LED lights.

Park Master Planning-Buffalo Hills-Lions Park

October 11, 2022

Mr. Yeager led the discussion for the Buffalo Hills-Lions Park master plan. He will bring back a drawing to the next meeting for approval. Buffalo Hills-Lions Park is a passive-active park. Additional park features considered include tennis/pickleball/basketball courts, clear brushy areas and establish berms and shade trees for natural outdoor seating around the ball fields, nature/ski/snowshoe trail, youth soccer fields for fall use in the softball outfields, horseshoes, upgrade and move playground equipment, build a parking area by the entrance away from the green space and fields, eliminate the second entrance and re-establish as green space, treehouse playground, benches and picnic tables, bike station, ADA accessibility from the parking area to the pavilion.

Adjourn

MOVED AND SECONDED AT 4:55 P.M. BY YEAGER AND SHIPE, DULY CARRIED, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim Finch, Administrative Specialist

October 11, 2022