

Proceedings of the Parks and Recreation Committee Monday May 6, 2013, 6:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee was held on Monday, May 6, 2013 at 6:00 P.M. in the Conference Room #1, Second Floor, Memorial Building, Ironwood, Michigan.

1. Call to Order:

Chair Davey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Recording of the Roll:

| MEMBER | PRESENT YES NO | | EXCUSED | NOT EXCUSED |
|--|-------------------|-----|---------|----------------|
| Andresen, Will | | . X | X | |
| Burchell, Annette | Χ | | | |
| Davey, Sam – Chair | Χ | | | |
| Frank, Steve | Χ | | | |
| Kangas, Tom | Χ | | | |
| Shackelford, Monie, ex- officio, non-voting | Х | | | |
| True, Marion | Χ | | | |
| Vuorenmaa, Bruce | Χ | | | |

Also present, Community Development Director Michael J.D. Brown. Guest Paul Garthwait, Eagle Scout and his Troop leader.

3. Approval of the Minutes:

Motion by Frank to accept the Minutes of April 1 and the Special Meeting of April 18, 2013. **Second** by True. **Motion Carried 5** - **0**.

4. Approval of the Agenda:

Burchell arrived. Motion by True to approve the Agenda. Second by Kangas. Motion carried 6 - 0

5. Citizens wishing to address the Committee on Items on the Agenda (Three-Minute Limit):

None

6. Citizens wishing to address the Committee on items not on the Agenda (Three-minute limit):

None.

7. Eagle Scout, Paul Gathwaite:

Paul Garthwait, 323 Eagle Scout: Mr. Garthwait introduced himself and explained what he was going to be doing at Norrie Park. He noticed that the benches weren't out or had been moved. He is going to be working on the benches and placing wood chips on the trail; they are looking bad. The wood chips have been donated. Would anyone mind if he puts woodchips on the Pavilion? He will be receiving help from the R.O.T.C., from Ironwood High School. They will begin the work as soon as the ground dries up. True asked how this will help the environment. Mr. Garthwait stated that it will help maintain the water by keeping erosion at bay. Mr. Garthwait passed around pictures that he had showing the condition of the trail now. Mr. Garthwait was looking for a signature from the City on these projects so that as soon as the ground is thawed they can start work. Kangas asked how the wood chips would be brought in. Mr. Garthwait indicated that they would be wheel-barrowed into the spots.

Frank indicated that the trail signage and bench are faded and Mr. Garthwait indicated that he would be willing to look at that project. True stated that the work should match the color and design of what is currently there. Mr. Garthwaite also offered to mark the trees with their botanical names on the boardwalk area. The last tree identification was seven years ago. A disk was given to Bessemer resident, Allan Archie, with the trees and names. True stated that there are signs that ABR may want to assist with?

The Committee commended and thanked Mr. Garthwait for his service to the Community.

Motion by Frank to allow Mr. Garthwait to repair/replace/paint benches in Norrie Park as well as to put down wood chips. Also, allow Mr. Garthwait to identify and label trees. **Second by** True. **Motion Carried 7 – 0.**

- 8. Park and Recreation Financials: (Monie Schackleford arrived 6:12 p.m.) Finance Director Linn unable to attend meeting. Director Brown indicated that the schedule for the new budget should happen in June for the July 2013 fiscal year. Director Brown said that if anyone has questions about the financials, to talk to Paul Linn. Director Brown did submit the Committee's request to the City of Ironwood for \$3,000.00 for the Parks and Recreation for a discretionary fund. Discussion was had on various line items in the current month's financials. The Committee should start having conversations early in the fall season about what projects it would like to pursue.
- 9. Items for discussion and consideration:
 - a. Xcel Energy: Dawn Schultz from Xcel in audience. Director Brown explained that Xcel is working on expanding their substation at Ayer Street and Easy Street outside Industrial Park. Part of the property is owned by the City of Ironwood and Xcel wants to purchase the property. Planning Commission reviewed a part of this. There is an old trail in the parcel; it's not an official trail. It is used to get to Trail 2. The Committee wanted to know what the purchase price is. Ms. Schultz explained that it is about \$3,000.00 acres and there is approximately 1.35 acres.

Kangas: Where did they come up with the \$3,000.00 per acre? Director Brown stated that in the Industrial Park and the IIDC, sell acreage for \$2,000.00 acre.

Kangas is worried that the City of Ironwood will be losing a trail as what happened in Ashland. In Ashland, they blocked off part of the trail and they were unable to get it re-opened.

Motion by Frank to recommend to the City of Ironwood Commissions that they sell this parcel to Xcel and that the funds be used to fund Parks and Recreation for things to do this summer. **Second by** Davey. **Motion carried 5 to 2** with Burchell and Kangas dissenting.

b. Trail Map: Director Brown presented the City of Ironwood's trail map. He brought a working copy of the non-motorized trail map. Included in the map were the bicycle and the park plans. He also included the trail included in the Depot Park plan. Monie could provide a clear GIS shape file; Director Brown would like to get whatever documents that Will Andresen has. On the southern portion proposed routes possibly existing there on the old railroad grades. There really isn't anything in Jesseville. Frank would like to see a trail from Jesseville connecting up to our Trail area somehow. Davey stated that some of this goes through Luppino's property out by Wal-Mart. Frank stated that this plan looks very good. Director Brown stated this is non-motorized, walking and biking. In a few months Director Brown hopes to bring back the motorized to the Committee. Davey stated that this is a lot of trail for non-motorized.

The Committee took no action on this item. Schackleford will provide a shape file in GIS. Director Brown will work on this and tweak it a bit. It is a work in progress.

c. Depot Park Pavilion Fee: Davey: The City of Ironwood would like to know what kind of a fee we should charge such as at the Norrie Park Pavilion. We don't have a full kitchen, but there are outlets to plug in items. There is a sink and counters. This preparation area will be locked when not in use. Frank stated he'd like to abolish the fee at Norrie and the fee for the downtown Pavilion, except for the locked area. Director Brown indicated that the fee schedule is usually amended during the budgeting process. Davey stated that more research needs to be done on the fee for the Depot Park Pavilion. Bring back before the Committee next month.

Davey spoke and said Curry Park's electrical is not sufficient for newer motorhomes, campers. It will be difficult to raise fees at this time. Until we get and receive a grant for this, we can't really raise the fees.

d. Sidewalks (Frank):

- 1. Frank: Spoke about the sidewalk on the 200 block of East Ash. He specifically asked for the City of Ironwood Manager to be here tonight to explain why the sidewalk was removed. This was for the water sewer project. The City of Ironwood Commission and Parks and Recreation were not informed that these sidewalks had been removed. Why? He brought this up at the City of Ironwood Commission meeting last November. Coleman engineering told him this didn't happen. He performed research over the winter and spoke with the homeowners, who indicated that the City of Ironwood contacted them and said, and asked if they wanted to keep or get rid of their sidewalks. The homeowners were told by a City Official it was a way to save the City of Ironwood money. Other's considered keeping, but began to worry about maintenance, so they had the sidewalks removed.
 - a. How did this happen?
 - b. City of Ironwood never informed.
 - c. Committee never informed.
 - d. We talk about safety walks to school and I am upset about this.
 - e. He will be contacting the granting agencies and letting them know of this. They spent the money on the water and sewer and the sidewalk should be redone.
 - f. This is setting a horrible precedence. He feels that the public needs to know about this.

True asked if this was Frank's property involved. Frank indicated he walks there and it is a public issue.

g. Frank stated that homeowners were contacted about removal of the sidewalks and told the homeowners that this would save the City of Ironwood money. He believes that this is a Parks and Recreation issue because people walk, hike and bike down these sidewalks. He has heard that this has happened in other areas.

Franks indicated that the Grant says that any sidewalk and/or curbing that is damaged needs to be replaced. Another block of sidewalk that was not hurt by the water sewer work was dug up and replaced. Frank is contacting the granting agency as this is a very serious violation of the Grant.

Vuorenmaa stated that the sidewalks need to be replaced. Shackleford asked if funding can be obtained to replace the sidewalks? Director Brown stated that there are not many grants available for sidewalks. You could apply for sidewalk improvements grants for say, around school areas (safety zones).

Frank stated that we need the comprehensive plan. Frank wanted to know who ultimately maintains the sidewalks?

Director Brown was directed to find out what happened to the sidewalks on E Ash and bring back to the next meeting.

11. Other Business:

- a. Depot Park: City of Ironwood Commission did allocate \$20,000 towards reducing the amount of the bid by deleting bid items from the timber sale fund.
- b. The trail grant received for the Trust fund of the trails. Director Brown has been reviewing the lease from the DNR. There are hopes that the trail can be completed this fall, but if not, next year. The City of Ironwood, City of Bessemer and City Wakefield, Ironwood Township, Bessemer Township and Wakefield Townships are setting up a recreational Board. City of Ironwood staff was in Lansing and were talking to MDOT and DNR and they asked where our grants were to finish the trails. So we are providing those grant applications to the State.
- c. Davey commented that the Committee should change its meeting time to earlier, possibly 5:00 p.m. Motion by True to change the time of the Park and Recreation Meeting to 5:00 p.m. Second by Frank. Motion carried 7 to 0.

Director Brown indicated that Andresen will not be re-applying for appointment to the Committee and that Frank and Davey's terms on the Board are expiring. Frank indicated that this will be, in all likelihood, his last meeting as he doesn't expect the Mayor to re-appoint him.

Shackelford indicated that the Minor's Memorial clean-up is May 18, 2013. The Miners group has 200 trees to plant, approximately 100 white spruces and 100 red pines, donated by an Ashland attorney.

10. Next Meeting:

June 3, 2013.

11. Adjournment:

Motion by True. Second by Kangas. Motion Carried 7 to 0. Adjournment 7:20 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted

Sam Davey, Chair

Kim M. Coon, Community Development Assistant



MEMO

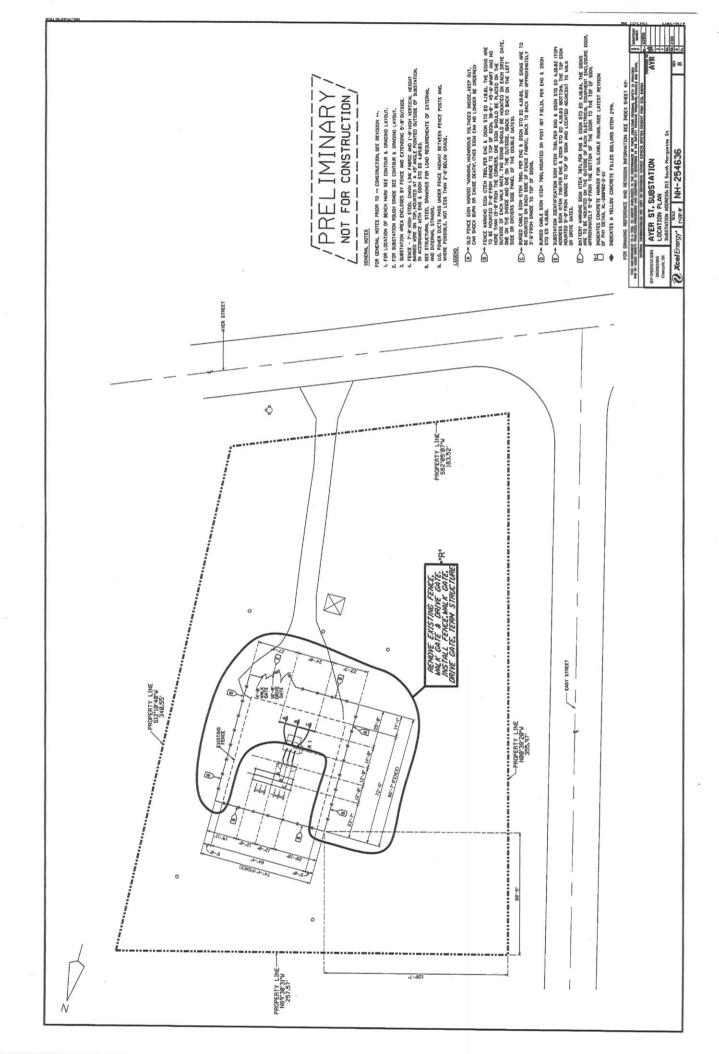
To: Chair Davey and Park & Recreation Committee Members

From: Michael J. D. Brown, Community Development Director

Date: April 26, 2013 Meeting Date: May 6, 2013

Re: Xcel Energy Land Purchase

Xcel Energy is planning on expanding its substation located at 900 E. Ayer Street which the City owns; the Planning Commission is in the process of reviewing the site plan and rezoning request. Xcel Energy would like to purchase the property from the City. Since this project involves the purchase of City owned land, staff would like the Committee to provide comments and/or recommendations to the City Commission for its consideration regarding the purchase of the land. Attached is the site plan for the project.





MEMO

To: Chair Davey and Park & Recreation Committee Members

From: Michael J. D. Brown, Community Development Director

Date: April 26, 2013 Meeting Date: May 6, 2013

Re: Draft Non-Motorized Trail Map

Attached is a draft non-motorized trail map. I have taken the existing map in the Park Plan and added additional areas that I received input from various contributors. The Committee should review this and be ready to discuss additions, deletions etc. Because of the scale of the map it may be difficult to review if printed, I suggest reviewing it in PDF form. I will break down the map at the meeting and provide an overview and explanation as to why various components have been provided on the map.



MEMO

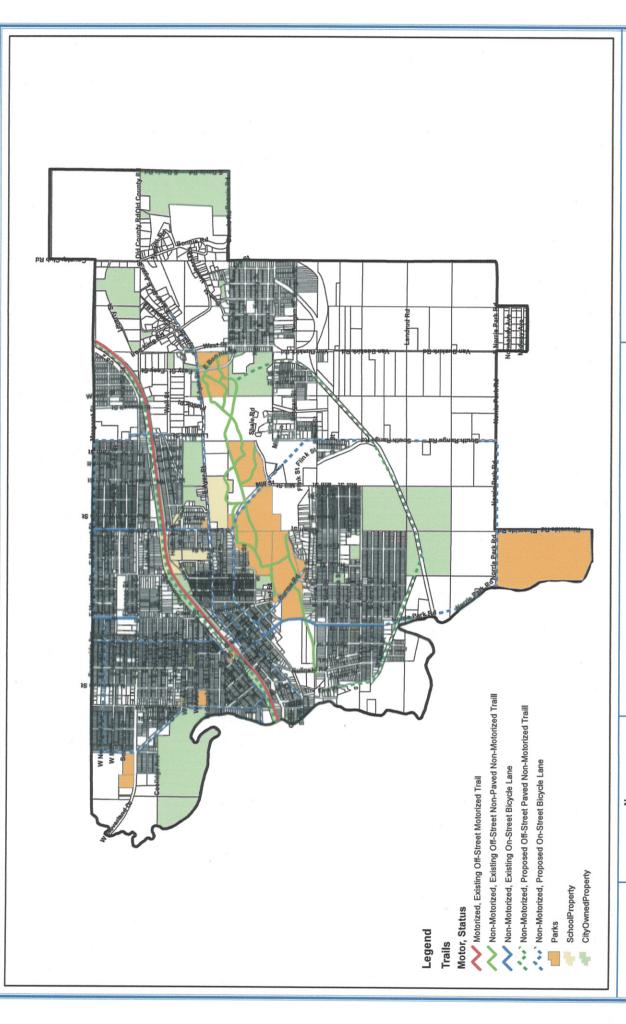
To: Chair Davey and Park & Recreation Committee Members

From: Michael J. D. Brown, Community Development Director

Date: April 26, 2013 Meeting Date: May 6, 2013

Re: Depot Park Pavilion Fees

As part of the City's budget process the City updates its Fee Schedule. The Committee should discuss if it would like to charge a fee for use of the Depot Park Pavilion. Currently there is a \$20 resident user fee and a \$25 nonresident user fee for the Norrie Park Pavilion as well as a \$50 security deposit. Per Paragraph 7e of the Grant Agreement for the Depot Park project between the City and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) any fee schedule set must first be approved by the DNR.



Draft Non-Motorized Trail Map

Monday, April 29, 2013

0 2,000 4,000 When printed at 8 1/2" x 11"

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213 S. Marquette St. Ironwood, MI 49938 Memorial Building, Conference Room #1, 2nd Floor

Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Agenda

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Recording of the Roll
- 3. Approval of the April 1, 2013 Meeting Minutes and April 18, 2013 Special Meeting Minutes
- 4. Approval of the Agenda
- 5. Citizens wishing to address the Committee on Items on the Agenda (Three-Minute Limit)
- 6. Citizens wishing to address the Committee on items not on the Agenda (Three-minute limit)
- 7. Audience: Paul Garthwait, Eaglescout project at Norrie Park
- 8. Parks Financials
- 9. Items for Discussion and Consideration
 - a. Xcel Energy
 - b. Trail Map
 - c. Depot Park Pavilion Use Fee
 - d. Sidewalks (Steve Frank)
- 10. Project Updates
- 11. Other Business
- 12. Next Meeting: June 3, 2013
- 13. Adjournment