

MINUTES

Eau Claire County

• **Committee on Parks & Forest** • **Committee on Finance & Budget** •

Monday, August 14, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

Agricultural and Resource Center

227 1st Street West Altoona – Room 103 and 104

Parks & Forest Members Present: Joe Knight, Missy Christopherson, Tami Schraufnagel, Dane Zook

Finance & Budget Members Present: Dane Zook, John Folstad, Robin Leary, Jim Dunning, Cory Sisk

Others Present: Josh Pedersen – Director, Jody Gindt – Supervisor, Winnie Parker – Administrative Specialist III (Committee Clerk), Erika Gullerud – Finance Analyst, Kyle Johnson – DNR County Forest Liaison, Todd Johnson - Parks & Programs Manager, Tim Wucherer – CORBA Representative, Nick Smiar – County Board District 15, Connie Russell – County Board District 13, Disa Walstrand – Eau Claire Ski Striders, Chris Gorzek – Eau Claire Ski Striders, Nathan McCorkle – CORBA Representative, Jereme Rauckman- Eau Claire Youth Cycling Representative

Call to Order Committee on Parks & Forest and confirmation of meeting notice

Chairman Knight called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and confirmed public posting of the meeting.

Call to Order Committee on Finance & Budget

Chairman Zook called the Committee on Finance & Budget to order at 5:00 p.m.

Public Comment

Disa Walstrand and Chris Gorzek from Ski Striders updated the Committee and requested the Parks & Forest Department to pay for a quarter of the total cost toward a new groomer. Ski Striders has already raised \$80,000 toward the purchase. Dane Zook reminded the committee that there is a public input session for the budget on Thursday, August 17, 2023, at Altoona City Hall. Joe Knight received two (2) emails in support of the purchase of a new groomer. Robin Leary received 20 letters in support of purchasing a new groomer.

Review of July 10, 2023, Committee Meeting Minutes

Supervisor Christopherson moved to approve the minutes from July 10, 2023. All in favor. Motion passed 4-0.

Budget Overview (Parks & Forest)

Director, Josh Pedersen provided an overview of his proposed 2024 budget. The committee had the opportunity to discuss in detail, ask clarifying questions, and provide input. Motion by Supervisor Zook to send the 2024 Budget Review Report as presented to the administration for their review. All in favor and none opposed, motion passed 4-0.

Committee on Finance & Budget Adjournment

The Committee on Finance & Budget adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Lowes Creek Park Bike Skills Area

Tim Wucherer of CORBA presented the plans for a new Bike Skills Area and Beginner Bike Playground at Lowes Creek Park. Three (3) key groups: CORBA, Eau Claire Youth Cycling, and the Adventure Team, have been collaborating on this endeavor. The skills park presented is meant to be a gathering place as well as a place to practice multiple levels of difficulty. Supervisor Christopherson moved to approve the Lowes Creek Bike Skills Area as well as the Beginner Bike Playground as presented contingent on Corporate Counsel's review and Director Pedersen's approval of any MOU. All in favor. Motion passed 4-0.

2023 Fee Schedule Changes

Director Pedersen shared additional necessary rate changes that were identified since the last Committee on Parks and Forest Meeting in July. Supervisor Schraufnagel moved to approve the additional fee changes as presented. All in favor. Motion passed 4-0.

Future Parks & Forest Committee Meetings and Items for Discussion

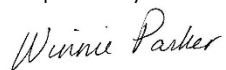
Item for discussion for next meeting: Allowing a driveway easement for Land Locked Parcel surrounded by Eau Claire County Forest land.

Next Parks & Forest committee meeting date is set for September 11, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

Committee on Parks & Forest Adjournment

The Committee on Parks & Forest adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,



Winnie Parker

Committee Clerk

Administrative Specialist III