

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION
SCHEDULED MEETING
September 6, 2022**

PRESENT: Commissioner Herb Huch, Commissioner Bob Murray and Commissioner Mark Beegle.

ABSENT: Commissioner Lynn Knopf (Covid) and Commissioner Carlet Mitenbuler.

ALSO PRESENT: One interested party.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Huch called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

WELCOME GUESTS

AGENDA: Motion by Bob Murray, second from Mark Beegle, *ADOPTED*, to accept the September 6, 2022 agenda.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

MINUTES: Motion by Bob Murray, second from Mark Beegle, *ADOPTED*, to accept the August 3, 2022 regular meeting minutes as written.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Jeff Marcinkowski, 3767 Jay Road – mentioned speaking with a forester in regards to the two new properties given to the Parks and Recreation Commission. He stated that the forester would cut everything out, but would not remove stumps. Supervisor Marcinkowski also added that branches will be left behind. He also mentioned that he went around to other Township properties.

RECEIPTS:

Chairman Huch reported receipts activity as pavilion rentals in the amount of \$60.00 for the month August 2022.

DISBURSEMENTS:

Chairperson Huch reported disbursements activity as \$2,150.00 to Dave Jarka for ball park irrigation, \$1,200.00 to Kerkstra for portable restrooms, \$62.45 to TruGreen for fertilization for total disbursements of \$3,412.45.

Motion by Bob Murray, second from Mark Beegle, *ADOPTED*, to accept receipts in the amount of \$60.00 for pavilion rentals and to pay total disbursements in the amount of \$3,412.45.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

Roll Call Vote: Beegle-Aye, Murray-Aye, Huch-Aye

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Conveyance of properties

The commissioners had questions regarding the conveyance of properties so they decided to ask Supervisor Marcinkowski.

Motion by Bob Murray, second from Mark Beegle, *ADOPTED*, to suspend Robert's Rules of Order to discuss the conveyance of properties with Supervisor Marcinkowski.

3 AYS, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

Supervisor Marcinkowski just reiterated that the conveyance of properties was regarding the two pieces of property already discussed with the Commission. He added that formal resolutions were made in regards to dedicating the properties to the Commission.

Motion by Bob Murray, second by Mark Beegle, *ADOPTED*, to resumes Robert's Rules of Order.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Project updates

Chairman Huch stated that he had questions regarding the roof color of the dugouts. Commissioner Murray reminded him that the commissioners all agreed to a red roof at the last meeting, which is also recorded in the minutes. Chairman Huch requested a motion.

Motion by Mark Beegle, second by Bob Murray, *ADOPTED*, to go with the recommendation of the individual working on the dugouts to go with red roofs.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

Commissioner Murray stated that he met with a gentleman named Jim from Anavon Technology Group in Traverse City regarding cameras in the park and possibly some outside of the Township hall. He said that the only sticky point would be cameras to cover the South entrance of the park since there isn't power out there. Commissioner Murray stated that Supervisor Marcinkowski arrived and joined them during the walk through of the park, and he added that Supervisor Marcinkowski suggested that getting poles with lights around the ring road would get power out to the South entrance. Supervisor Marcinkowski raised his hand to request to speak, so the commissioners decided to suspend Robert's Rules of Order.

Motion by Bob Murray, second by Mark Beegle, *ADOPTED*, to suspend Robert's Rules of Order to have a discussion with Supervisor Marcinkowski.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

Supervisor Marcinkowski mentioned that the Township is budgeted \$10,000.00 of the ARPA fund money to put WiFi throughout the park. He added that adding the lights and cameras would increase that amount. Supervisor Marcinkowski added it might be a good idea for the Commission to request some of the funding to put lights on the outside of the ring road to give the opportunity for power. He added that they can possibly add receptacles on the light poles as well so potential vendors can plug into them in the future should there be any events in the park. Commissioner Murray questioned how neighbors across the street might be affected by the lights in the park. Supervisor Marcinkowski suggested getting LED lights so that they are more focused and shielded in a particular area. He also added that there is an option to do a motion detection so that the lights turn off after a certain period of time.

Motion by Bob Murray, second by Mark Beegle, *ADOPTED*, to resume Robert's Rules of Order.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

Motion by Herb Huch, second by Bob Murray, *ADOPTED*, to have Supervisor Marcinkowski continue on looking into security and lighting in the park.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

2. Tree trimming

Commissioner Murray stated that he has gone through the park as well with ribbons for marking the trees, adding that there are three must remove trees in the park. He stated that there are two maples across from the South pavilion that are almost completely dead. Commissioner Murray said that a large tree just past the chain for the roadway is currently hung up in another tree that should be taken down. He also said that he looked at the trees near the tennis courts and saw that Chairman Huch also marked some trees and agreed with a few trees that he had marked for removal. Commissioner Murray also stated that he knows Commissioner Mitenbuler has expressed that she is not big on removal. Chairman Huch stated that there are also a few trees by the parking lot that need to be removed. The commissioners have discussed possibly improving the parking area in the future and he thinks those trees are causing issue. Commissioner Beegle stated that he's not a tree hugger and he would like to remove ugly trees and tress that are issues. He and Chairman Huch both stated that they should remove the trees that are issues and plant new varieties of trees to make things look nicer. Commissioner Murray said that he has extensive experience in this area with a degree in horticulture, and he said that planting new trees isn't as easy as it sounds, adding that it is hard to get trees established in sandy areas like the park. He also said that they need constant attention and watering. Commissioner Beegle said that he agrees with Commissioner Murray that the Commission shouldn't slaughter the trees but does agree that they should thin and take care of dead trees. Commissioner Beegle questioned if the Commission should add a walk through of the park to their October meeting so they are able to discuss the trees together.

Motion by Bob Murray, second from Mark Beegle, *ADOPTED*, to add a walk through of the park as a Commission to the October meeting.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

3. Baseball field update

Chairman Huch stated that the irrigation is complete and the dugouts will be completed soon.

4. Tennis Courts

Commissioner Murray reminded the commissioners what the system he received a quote on was about, adding that it is a urethane that will stop any cracks from happening. He also added that the courts would be sealed with a rubberized surface. Commissioner Murray added that this is the one system the Commission could do that would completely stop cracks from happening. He added that even completely redoing the courts wouldn't prevent cracks, and full replacement would never have to happen again. Commissioner Murray stated that another company is coming out to give a quote on complete replacement, adding that he hasn't received a quote yet. He also added that Commissioner Knopf also has someone giving a quote. Chairman Huch argued that the Township Board wouldn't even consider the system that Commissioner Murray has presented because it is too much money. He also said that he has a quote for around \$38,000.00 to fill the cracks and resurface the courts. Chairman Huch stated that the Commission currently has \$30,000.00 right now. This individual he has can start the work right away. Chairman Huch stated that he would much rather have the Commission look into just filling the courts and resurfacing, adding that he doesn't feel comfortable spending the kind of money that Commissioner Murray is proposing. Commissioner Murray stated that the Commission isn't just looking at redoing the tennis courts. He added that there was a desire as a Commission to move in the direction of pickleball, adding that they can still do that as well. Chairman Huch stated that down the line the Commission could look into pickleball. Commissioner Beegle said that he doesn't feel the Township should be responsible to cover that much for a tennis court, adding that it's just too much money. Commissioner Murray reminded the commissioners that the funding wouldn't be through the Township, it would be ARPA funding that was given to the Township to use. He also added that the Commission has been encouraged to look at projects they could potentially do with ARPA funding, adding that this has been the discussion regarding the tennis courts. Commissioner Murray stated that the Commission should look at all the plans and possibilities before making any decisions. Chairman Huch suggested moving forward with the \$38,000.00 quote, and Commissioner Murray reminded the commissioners that they have to get three quotes before proceeding. Commissioner Murray said that he may very well go with the plan has presented, but the Commission can't keep hiring friends to do the work in the park but they need to get three quotes.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Jeff Marcinkowski, 3767 Jay Road – encouraged the Commission to present all ideas and opportunities for the tennis courts. He added that the Commission can't make a decision based on what they think the Township Board may or may not approve. All ideas and options need to be presented to let the Township Board decide what the best option might be. He added that the ARPA funds were a gift to the Township.

Chairman Huch began reading a letter he had, and Recording Secretary Mary Mansfield informed him that he would have to read the letter during commissioner's comments because it could not be a public comment.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:

Chairman Huch mentioned a letter from Benjamin Moore for the tennis courts, adding that he's not sure what the quote would be today. He also said the Township shouldn't spend money on the tennis courts, adding that the park is for the kids not for adults.

Commissioner Beegle said that the Commission has a lot to figure out in regards to the trees and tennis courts, adding that they have to figure it out and they will. He added that he doesn't want residents to think they are spending too much money on tennis courts when there are more projects that could be completed. He added that he's with Commissioner Murray, if it's a gift, the Commission has to look at it.

Commissioner Murray said that he thinks the others are missing some things, adding that the commissioners that the ARPA funding has already been awarded to the Township and has to be used. He said once it's gone, it's gone. Commissioner Murray stated that he thinks it would be a mistake to do a band-aid patch of the courts. He added that the Commission should go in big and get things completed. Commissioner Murray said that if the Commission drags their feet, they could potentially miss out on funding and possible improvements, and it wouldn't be fair to the residents. He said he would like the Commission to get serious.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Bob Murray, second from Mark Beegle, ***ADOPTED*** to adjourn the September 6, 2022 scheduled meeting of the Fruitland Township Parks and Recreation Commission at 6:49 PM.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Mansfield, Recording Secretary