

PRESENT: Chairman Sam Battle, John Hammond, Stacey Francis, Parks Director Reardon, and Secretary Tami Martinak

ABSENT: Maggie Lieux and Gina Kilgore

GUESTS:

- Vaugh Sprinkle

CALL TO ORDER:

SPEAKER(s):

- Vaughn Sprinkle from Mini Pioneers is asking for South Recreation Center from 2/03-5/19 for their football & cheerleading workouts, from 5-8pm. Tutoring will be offered from 5-6pm. Workouts will be from 6-8pm. Also would like one weekend for an Intro to Football Clinic, date to be determined. Check with Brandon Lawler on dates.
 - John Hammond made motion to allow the Mini Pioneers to have access 2/03-5/19 from 5-8pm and to be determined at a later date for a football clinic at South Recreation Center. Tutoring to be offered 5-6pm. Stacey Francis 2nd. **MOTION CARRIED**

MAYOR/SAFETY SERVICE OFFICE UPDATE:

- No report

APPROVAL OF CONSENTED ITEMS:

- Agenda
- Minutes from December 9, 2024
- December 2024 Financials
- Stacey Francis made motion to approve the Consented Items, John Hammond 2nd

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Copy of the confirmation letter reappointing Mr. John Hammond to another term starting January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2029 on the Park Board.

BUSINESS:

- Election of Park Board Chairman, Park Board Vice Chairman & Park Board Secretary.
 - Chairman Battle turned over the elections to Parks Director Carrie Reardon.
 - Chairman – Sam Battle nominated and accepted
 - Vice Chairman – John Hammond nominated and accepted
 - Secretary – Tami Martinak nominated and accepted
 - All were duly elected.
 - Sam Battled accepted the Planning Commission Park Board Representative.
 - Elections were completed and meeting turned back over the Chairman Battle.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

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PARKS DIRECTOR REPORT

- **Maintenance Manager**
Jay Horwedel has turned in his retirement letter and will be retiring March 31, 2025. Jay has been with the city for over 36 years. He has poured his heart and soul in to the Parks and Recreation department and will be greatly missed.

We have gone through the interview process and have been able to back fill his position. Tim Gallagher will join our department on Monday January 13th. Tim was with the Parks and Rec department years ago and is eager to get back. He has big shoes to fill but we look forward to the experience he will bring to the department.

- **Finwood**

Another great year at Finwood. We had 13,684 people go through the house or visit Santa and over 19,000 cars drive through. Many thanks to Nicole and Jay for all of their hard work in getting Finwood ready for the busy holiday season.

- Budget meeting went well
- Trail work at East – stone to be added
- Nicole Edwards is back!!
- Fireworks will be on July 4th this year.
- Program Fee Increase? Meeting with Mayor. Possible credit card fees will be charged to customers.
- Issue 6 requests approved.
- Open Bids for Women’s Locker Room at North Ice Rink, came in under. No timeline yet, hopefully completed by October 1st.
- Pocket Park – out to bid by end of month
- South Baseball Field under contract
- Roof & Siding at North Ice Rink, under state bid.
- Safety-Service and Law Director not on board with Hockey Club for their advertising fundraiser.
- Issue 6 – possible May Ballot
- John Hammond brought up the use of Park Rangers
- Fence near basketball courts at East to help keep the basketballs from going into the roadway

John Hammond made motion to accept the Parks Director’s Report, Stacey Francis 2nd.

MOTION CARRIED

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT

- **Nicole Edwards**, Recreation Supervisor
 - No report, off on medical
- **Brandon Lawler**, Recreation Supervisor
 - We are excited about the new opportunities for our community residents through our programs! Beginning this week, we will offer the 10 – 12-year-old youth basketball league with games being held at East Recreation Center on Saturday mornings. Immediately following the games, we are hosting a Youth Basketball Skills Clinic for ages 13- 16. At South Recreation Center we are offering basketball leagues for three age groups, 3-4; 5-6 and 7-9!
 - Other programs beginning this week are the Youth Volleyball Clinics grades 3rd -5th and 6th -8th. The volleyball clinic will be held at West Recreation Center along with our Adult Volleyball Open Gym on Saturdays. These clinics are popular because of the individual attention from our instructors and the opportunity to develop basic and advanced fundamentals. Next, adult volleyball is back and will begin this Tuesday (1/14/2025). Our adult volleyball league has more teams registered for this winter session than the most recent fall session as well as last year’s winter session!
 - All of our programs are continuing to grow! My goal is to further our premier programs and develop new programs that will positively impact our community. With this in mind, we are continuing Open Pickleball and will be offering a Spring Pickleball League beginning in March.

Furthermore, we are finalizing details for our Teen and E-Sports programs! Our department is working hard to present excellent experiences to all families and it is a privilege to serve the community. As always, it is a privilege to serve the community.

- **Kaleigh Plato, Recreation Supervisor**
 - Hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday season. We have been very busy at the ice rink with holiday open skates. We are about to begin session 2 of learn to skate and we have a skate with Sully from the Cleveland monsters coming up as well. Lots going on at the ice rink!
 - Homeschool open gym took a break while the local schools were on holiday break, but will be beginning again soon.
 - We are planning for the spring and summer already so I am looking and planning dates for the pools, adult softball, and movie in the park and pool events. It'll be here before we know it.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: n/a

Next meeting will be Thursday, February 13, 2025 at the West Recreation Center.
(subject to change).

ADJOURNMENT:



Parks Board Chairman



Parks Director



Secretary