

SPECIAL PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES - OCTOBER 7, 1999
PAGE 1

Present: Chairperson Schmitt: Vice-Chairperson Greening; Members: Cobleigh, Davis, Mooney and O'Reilly

Absent: Harmon

Also Present: Assistant to the Manager, Pasieka
Council Liaison, Stearn
Council Members, Kennedy and Downey

Chairperson Schmitt presided and called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Village municipal building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road.

Schmitt stated that this is a special meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board called to discuss parking lot paving options. Notice of the meeting was displayed on the bulletin board outside village hall last Friday and notice was given to all members of the Parks and Recreation Board on that day. Notice has been displayed on the Village marquee sign.

MOTION by O'Reilly, supported by Mooney, to waive the one week notice requirement to hold a special meeting.

Roll Call Vote:
Motion passes unanimously.

Board members welcomed newly appointed member Jim O'Reilly.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sharon Pugh of 31935 Alden Court stated that she and Phyllis Lauer have been selling paving bricks as a fund raiser for the new park entrance. People are asking when they will see their bricks in the new walkway.

There followed a discussion on the status of the park entrance project. It is anticipated that work will commence in the spring. There is a rough cost estimate of \$50,000 for this project. Council has approved \$2,000 for an engineering study.

David Jensen of 31130 Stafford, the individual who designed the concept for a new park entrance, stated that a topographical study and tree survey has to be done in order to finalize the design. He has been authorized to hire a surveyor to do this with funds allocated by Council. The conceptual plan will become an actual design with respect to brick, plantings, lighting, etc. This work will take place over the winter months. Construction documents cannot be produced until this information is available. The earliest that improvements could take place is in late spring because the ground will be frozen.

DISCUSS PARKING LOT PAVING OPTIONS

SPECIAL PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES - OCTOBER 7, 1999
PAGE 2

Schmitt stated that Public Services Director Spallasso prepared three potential plans for paving the parking lot in Beverly Park. The first plan costs about \$140,000 and includes four inches of asphalt, curbs, drainage, lights, traffic islands, and trees. It would park 104 cars and last about 30 years. The other extreme is a \$35,000 project consisting of 1+ inches of asphalt that could last up to 10 years.

Spallasso has prepared plans for a \$60,000 paved and striped parking lot with three inches of asphalt that would handle heavy trucks and maintenance vehicles and accommodate 150 cars. If the Village adds a Change Order to an existing contract for asphalt resurfacing of roads, the cost would be \$56,700 to include striping and a contingency for engineering.

Schmitt reported that there is approximately \$55,000 in the Friends of Beverly Park account. This is comprised of the following. Revenues of \$16,115 from the mailer that went out village-wide. After estimated expenses of \$1,000, there is a net of \$15,000 from the mailer. The bricks have grossed \$6,300 with an estimated \$4,000 in profit. The dinner raised \$31,000. The Village Woman's Club pledged an additional \$5,000 for a total of \$55,000.

Schmitt has been informed by administration that there is a total of \$56,426.25 in the Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Fund. A portion of that (\$11,000) has been earmarked for various projects including resurfacing the tennis courts, repairing the drinking fountain, and other small projects. If the Parks and Recreation Board agrees to reallocate this \$11,000 to the Capital Improvement Fund, the repairs could be postponed for another year.

This meeting was called to decide whether the Parks and Recreation Board wants to proceed with the parking lot paving this year or wait until next year. A resolution from the Board should be forwarded to Council for its October 18 meeting if the consensus is to proceed with the paving. With Council approval, the parking lot can be paved and striped this fall as an extension to the road resurfacing project. This would be the \$60,000 parking lot.

Schmitt asked for two motions to be made and discussed. One is a motion requesting Council to redirect the \$11,000 earmarked for certain items into the park capital improvement fund. Another motion would request Council to direct administration to pave and stripe the Beverly Park parking lot this fall with funds budgeted in the Capital Improvement Fund.

At the inquiry of the Board, Pasioka presented figures from the 10/7/99 revenue and expenditure report prepared by the Finance Director showing the funds available in the Parks and Recreation budget. There was \$13,500 at the start of 1999/2000 fiscal year that was not included in the June report. In addition to that, there is \$17,500 from 1998/99 and \$1,500 of interest from that money. This comes to \$32,000 which was added to the amount budgeted for 1999/2000 which is \$24,000. As was stated, \$11,000 of this amount was committed to specific park improvement items. The total amount available is \$56,428.25.

SPECIAL PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES - OCTOBER 7, 1999
PAGE 3

There were comments and questions from Board members. It was questioned why necessary repairs or improvements were not made in a timely manner if there was money available in the budget. Board members asked to receive timely revenue and expense reports for Parks and Recreation funds.

It was asked if the money available now for park capital improvements can be set aside to be used for the parking lot paving next spring after a plan has been prepared and agreed upon. Schmitt understands that the money will remain in the park capital projects fund if it is not reallocated by Council. He does not believe this would happen under normal circumstances.

MOTION by Mooney, supported by Davis, to reallocate the \$11,000 earmarked for specific park improvements to the Capital Improvement Fund.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION by Davis, supported by O'Reilly, to request Council to direct administration to pave and stripe the Beverly Park parking lot this fall with funds budgeted in the Park Capital Improvement Fund.

Don Greening expressed the view that a topographical study should be conducted prior to paving the parking lot. He thinks the parking lot should be done with curbing, sewers, and an island down the middle.

Schmitt stated that the \$60,000 paving project would not include sewers. The parking lot would be sloped and would drain towards the park.

Jensen stated that he has invested time in designing the park master plan and the concept for the new entrance. Money is being raised for park improvements. The community has done something deliberate and methodical and a strong consensus has been built to support this park entrance plan. It is his view that this 34-acre park which is the Village's center green deserves something better than the parking lot proposed. Jensen thinks that time should be taken to think about what a park parking lot should look like, considering all the aspects of the vehicular and pedestrian traffic. He proposes delaying the parking lot paving until next spring while a consensus is developed on what a parking lot should look like that is connected to Beverly Park and the surrounding area.

Sharon Pugh was concerned about how the parking lot would coordinate with plans for the wrought iron fence and the walkway.

Greening commented that it is important to have the park entrance, the parking lot, and the pavilion done properly. She is opposed to proceeding with the parking lot pavement without a more comprehensive plan.

Stearn stated that he is not expressing an opinion on either parking lot option. There is over \$50,000 in the park capital improvement fund at present. This is money that has been collecting over the

SPECIAL PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES - OCTOBER 7, 1999
PAGE 4

years and has not been spent. Stearn does not think that Council has expressed a desire to spend that money any differently. Hypothetically, Council could reallocate that money. If that does not happen, the money will remain in the capital improvement fund for future use.

Stearn asked the Parks and Recreation Board to consider the practical problem of acquiring another \$100,000 to construct a \$150,000 parking lot. He does not see the current Council allocating \$100,000 to the park next year. Council reluctantly agreed to appropriating an additional \$12,000 to the park this year.

Kennedy informed the Board that Council is considering a ballot question for the March election to ask the voters to increase the millage cap. Council was presented with the five year financial forecast which demonstrates that the millage cap will not be sufficient to continue the current level of services. If the millage cap is not raised, Council will be looking for money everywhere it can.

Greening proposes that Council dedicate millage to the park so that the entire community is contributing to the park.

Cobleigh expressed the view that the correct way to proceed with the parking lot paving would be to do it right the first time and avoid future repairs.

Schmitt stated that he does not know if the parking lot will ever get paved if it is not done now when the funds are available. His concern is that Council will not appropriate another \$100,000 for a parking lot with islands, curbs and drains. The money is available for a parking lot that will last 20 years. He would like to see the parking lot usable this fall and winter and next spring which would show people that something is being done to improve the park.

O'Reilly is not convinced that enough preparation has been done to proceed with paving the parking lot in the right way. This is the parking lot that we want to present to the community for many years into the future.

Schmitt remarked that Spallasso informs him that a three inch asphalt paved parking lot is "top of the line". The road contractors who would be doing the work have the heavy equipment to do this project well.

Mooney recalled that the Parks and Recreation Board decided to proceed in a certain order at its July meeting which involved an engineering study, design plans, and cost estimates. She thinks the Village should continue with that approach. She suggested that there may be other options for paving the parking lot than those proposed.

Davis expressed the opinion that the parking lot paving is needed, but she would prefer to wait until next spring to proceed.

Vote on motion to proceed with parking lot paving this year:

Motion fails by a unanimous vote.

THANK DINNER COMMITTEE

MOTION by O'Reilly, supported by Davis, to thank Patricia Greening and the Friends of Beverly Park Committee that organized the fund raising dinner held on September 22, 1999 at the Birmingham Country Club.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION by O'Reilly, supported by Davis, to thank Don Greening for constructing the foot bridge over the creek in Beverly Park.

Motion passes unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

**Phillip Schmitt, Chairperson
Parks and Recreation Board**

**Ellen E. Marshall
Village Clerk**