

Present: Chairperson Greening; Vice-Chair Nagle; Members: Davis, Harmon, O'Reilly, and Schmitt

Absent: Wilms

Also Present: Assistant to the Manager, Pasioka
Council Liaison, Burry

Chairperson Greening called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Beverly Park pavilion.

APPROVE MINUTES

Motion by Harmon, second by Schmitt, that the minutes of a regular Parks and Recreation Board meeting held on September 15, 2005 be approved as submitted.

Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mooney remarked that the Parks and Recreation Board is up against certain Council members who are negative towards the park. She thinks that the Board is doing a great job, and she urged members to continue to promote the positive aspects of park issues.

Mooney commented that it was implied at the October 18 Council meeting that the Parks and Recreation Board goes out for bids. It does not. A motion was made at last month's Parks and Recreation Board meeting that the Board recommend proceeding with obtaining bid proposals for renovation of the ball diamonds according to the plan prepared by a subcommittee of the Board.

Council Liaison Burry clarified that Council was not attacking the Parks and Recreation Board when it referred to recent bid proposals related to parks and recreation projects. The Village Charter specifies that a bid proposal must come before the Village Council before it goes out for bids. A bid package should receive Council consideration. The Parks and Recreation Board reviews proposals received and makes a recommendation to Council on bid selection. The issue was that the Village must follow Charter language. Both the pavilion landscaping and ballfield improvement Request for Proposals were sent out without the review or approval of Council.

Schmitt restated that the Parks and Recreation Board passed a motion recommending that bids for the ballfield project be sent out by those responsible. Members feel that the Parks and Recreation has been attacked for going out for bids.

Burry commented that he would like to help the Board prepare for Council review of the ballfield project. Council members will have questions about the proposal when the bids come before them for consideration.

Dan Nelson of 32311 Sheridan stated that the pavilion looks great.

Jeffery Pynnonen of 31724 Allerton had comments about the ballfield project, which he was asked to reserve for that agenda item. Pynnonen expressed the view that the Village Charter should be followed in terms of having Council approve bids before they go out.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER BALL FIELD BIDS

Board members received a packet this week containing three bid proposals and related material associated with the ball field improvements. The budget for improvements to the north and south baseball diamonds is \$72,500. O'Reilly provided a history of cost proposals for park improvement projects to date that have come in higher than the projections based on engineering studies. The budget and scope for the ballfield project was scaled back twice from \$158,000 to \$72,500.

O'Reilly reviewed that the Village sent bid proposals to a number of entities, and three responses were received. The bid from American Fence and Supply was for fencing only, which makes it an incomplete bid. The quote from Nationwide Fence & Supply Co. was \$86,979.75. The bid from Water Management Specialist, Inc. was in the amount of \$59,344.44.

The bid from Water Management Specialist is within the budget and meets all requirements of the bid proposal. This bid is for improvements to the north diamond only. Work will be done on the south diamond used by the Little League with the remaining money. The Village has relied on the Beverly Hills Little League and the Boy Scouts to keep that field in good shape.

O'Reilly explained that the bid proposal requested that the vendor itemize unit pricing for each requirement. The top portion of the bid proposal form includes items that must be done to provide safe conditions and make the field presentable. Included in the bid form is a section for four alternate prices to accomplish a few of the plan items with the idea that these tasks could be modified if necessary. The alternate items are: installation of two 5-row bleachers; secondary reseeding in Spring '06; remove & reinstall two foul poles; removal & disposal of existing bleachers. O'Reilly talked about the alternate items and how they fit into the plan.

The north diamond will be rotated about 15 degrees in a clockwise direction so that it is parallel with Allerton rather than facing the street. The foul poles will need to be refigured. Fencing will be taken down and reinstalled to accommodate the 15 degree rotation. The infield will be regraded. The pathway going to the north diamond will be regraded, sodded or seeded. The dugouts will be taken out and reconstructed so that they are behind the fencing. There will be bleachers on both sides of the field.

O'Reilly referred to the alternate prices and indicated that he can remove and reinstall the two foul poles and bases with some help, which would save \$2,751. Board members thought that they could accomplish removal and disposal of the existing bleacher at a cost under the \$1,500 quoted in the bid. It was noted that Water Management Specialist has proposed using a portion of the right field fencing being removed for the outfield fence extension, which will save the Village about \$150.

O'Reilly stated that the contractor observed during an on-site inspection that there is concrete at the bottom of the dugouts. This was not in the original bid because it was discovered after the bid proposal went out. The cost of removing this concrete will be \$1,250. The Board should consider whether it wants the contractor to sod or reseed in the Spring.

Dan Nelson questioned the condition of the bleachers and whether they could be used elsewhere in the park. O'Reilly responded that the bleachers are in poor condition and may present a liability. Pasieka added that, if the bleachers are moved to another location as part of this renovation, they may not comply with current requirements for bleacher safety.

Pynnonen did not think that the bleachers need to be replaced for another five or ten years. He questioned why the Village does not charge for use of the ballfield. He was informed that this is a public park. Schmitt provided a brief history of Beverly Park noting that it was deeded to the Village of Beverly Hills with certain restrictions, one of which is that it had to be available for Little League Baseball.

Questions and comments from the Board and others were addressed by O'Reilly and Pasieka. It was explained that the Board could not perform the fence removal and disposal because it is part of the base bid. Burry questioned whether the project could be done piece meal by having American Fencing do the fence work and engaging other companies do the infield grading and install bleachers. O'Reilly explained that the fence and infield work have to be done at the same time due to the ball field reconfiguration. Otherwise, the fields could not be used. In addition, prices have been increasing every year. O'Reilly added that the primary bidders who work on ballfields were contacted previously and had quoted \$160,000 and \$138,000 for this project.

Motion by O'Reilly, second by Davis, that the Parks and Recreation Board recommend that Council accept the bid of Water Management Specialist, Inc. for improvements to the north baseball diamond in an amount not to exceed \$57,000 contingent on the following modifications: a) eliminate alternate (3) Remove & reinstall two foul poles at a cost of \$2,751.46; b) Eliminate alternate (4) Remove & disposal of existing bleacher at a cost of \$1,534.22; c) Add \$1,250 to remove concrete in the dugout.

Pynnonen expressed strong opposition to locating bleachers closer to Allerton Road where there is a home located 96 ft' from the fence. Currently, the bleachers are 165' away from the nearest home. He maintains that locating the bleachers closer to Allerton will add to the noise on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Further, moving the bleachers closer to the road will encourage people to park on Allerton.

Loma Schmitt of 18103 Riverside commented that the bleachers will be facing away from Allerton.

Motion passed unanimously.

Pasieka stated that Council will consider the bid proposals for the ballfield project at its Tuesday, November 1 meeting. Greening volunteered to make calls and check the four references listed in the bid proposal from Water Management Specialist. Pasieka will prepare a memo to Council on this topic and provide them with copies of the minutes from tonight's meeting. He has confirmed with Finance Director Wiszowaty that funds are available in the dedicated millage fund for this project. Bid packages have been provided to all Council members. It was suggested that O'Reilly and any other members of the Board who are available attend the November 1 Council meeting to address questions on this project.

Burry asked if the contract includes penalties for not completing the work by a certain date. Pasieka responded that a timeline was requested in the bid proposal, and the contractor has indicated that they can meet that timeline. A penalty clause was not included. O'Reilly noted that it was difficult enough to solicit responses to the proposals.

Burry asked if there are plans to improve the south baseball diamond with the remaining funds. O'Reilly answered that it is planned to improve the Little League field; however, the expense will not approach the cost of renovating the north diamond because the south diamond is in far better condition and the field will not be reconfigured. The Little League provides a great amount of assistance as far as labor and materials. It is also expected that Eagle Scout projects will be directed toward this particular field. All these factors will cut down on costs.

Burry questioned the rationale for rotating the north diamond. O'Reilly referred to the diagram and explained that the diamond is being rotated because foul balls are currently hit into the street or front yards. It is primarily a safety factor. It is proposed to rotate the diamond so that the left field foul line goes out to the fence and is parallel to Allerton. A portion of the backstop will cut down on foul balls going onto Allerton.

POSSIBLE TOPICS FOR JOINT MEETING WITH COUNCIL SCHEDULED FOR 11/17/05

The annual joint meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board and Council has been rescheduled to November 17, 2005 in the municipal building. It was suggested that the meeting time be moved to 7:00 p.m. so that the Board can complete its regular agenda items before meeting with Council.

Topics of discussion were suggested at the August meeting. One of the topics mentioned was to consider increasing Beverly Park pavilion rental rates in 2006 in view of the need to maintain park improvements. It was suggested that resident rates remain the same but non-resident rates be doubled. Pasieka stated that the Village calendar preparation is at a point where it may be difficult to make a change in the rental rates. Board members asked that the current rates be removed from the calendar if possible.

Topics for discussion:

- What can be expected for the park maintenance and park improvement budgets for 2006. Capital must be put into the park to keep it maintained properly.
- Discuss maintaining telephone service at the park pavilion for safety reasons.
- Consider increasing Beverly Park pavilion rental rates in 2007 in view of the need to maintain park improvements. It was suggested that resident rates remain the same but non-resident rates be doubled.
- Discuss special event budget for Parks and Recreation

It was questioned whether the summer concert dates are included in the 2006 Village calendar. Nagle will contact the Village Clerk about including “Music in the Park” on specific days. The Parks and Recreation Board asked that approval of the contract with Dal Bouey to perform at a summer concert be removed from the November 1 Council agenda so the summer concert series can be discussed at the joint meeting.

LIAISON COMMENTS

Burry stated that the Board did a great job with the park improvements. He comes to the park often and thinks it is a great place.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

Pasieka commented that he will provide Board members with revised Council rosters.

Schmitt observed that the pavilion contractor placed a dumpster on the asphalt parking lot in the summer, which caused ruts in the asphalt that need to be repaired before the contract is finalized. In addition, the gravel road installed by the contractor should be removed.

BOARD COMMENTS

Davis commented that she has watched the last two Council meetings, and she resents members of Council speaking unfavorably about the Parks and Recreation Board. She called attention to the dedication of Pat Greening, who has worked hard on organizing the Halloween Hoot. Davis stated that she will not be available to attend the joint meeting with Council.

Harmon welcomed new council liaison Grey Burry and looked forward to working with him.

Nagle welcomed Greg Burry and hopes that he will be a good spokesman for the Parks and Recreation Board. She thinks that the completed pavilion and landscaping looks great.

Schmitt thanked Stan Pasieka for doing a great job. He mentioned that the pavilion looks great. Schmitt expressed disappointment that Council did not mention the Halloween Hoot at its October 18 meeting until after 11:00 p.m., at which time the cable broadcast had been discontinued. A public announcement should have been made during normal viewing hours.

Schmitt welcomed the new Council liaison and looks forward to his assistance with guiding the ball diamond project through Council. He asked the liaison to correct the record regarding the role of the Parks and Recreation Board in going out for bids for park projects.

Greening welcomed Greg Burry and is looking forward to having a more positive attitude on Council. She hopes to see everyone at the Halloween Hoot on Sunday, October 23. The pumpkins will be delivered at 9 a.m. for topping and gutting at 10 a.m. Fifteen groups are putting up kiosks on the park trail. There are about 50 volunteers from Groves High School helping this year. County Commissioner Marcia Gershenson will be in attendance at the Hoot.

Everyone wished Happy Birthday to Cynthia Nagle.

Motion by Nagle, second by Harmon, to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

Motion passed.

Patricia Greening, Chair
Parks and Recreation Board

Ellen E. Marshall
Village Clerk

Susan Bernard
Recording Secretary