

# PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday January 20, 2015

5:00 PM

Hall of Fame Room



Present: Alderpersons: Tricia Suess, Michael Engelberger, Pat O'Connor, and Parks and Recreation Director Tom Lynch

Guests: Tim Swadley, John Halverson

## 1. Call to Order

By Engelberger at 5:01 PM

## 2. Approval of November 19, 2014 Minutes

*Motion by Suess, seconded by O'Connor, to accept the minutes from November 19, 2014 with changes. Motion passed 3-0.*

## 3. Communications

The committee talked about the use of the high school pool for residents.

## **Old Business**

### 4. Projects Update

The Racetrack Park parking lot lighting is completed. Lynch attended a light test and operation meeting last week. The system will use a combination of light sensors and timer to control the usage period. The LED lamps do not appear bright but the light casting is excellent.

The Hospital/Skaalen/Amundson Trail is moving forward with the Hospital section getting funding approval from their foundation. They are currently letting the proposals. Efforts are continuing to get full approval from Skaalen on their section.

The Norse Park Ice Rink has been open and getting good attendance. The ice quality is excellent. We have hired a person to open, turn the lights on and close. This is more economical than staffing the facility during open hours. There is no fee to skate there.

## **New Business**

### 5. Division St. Park Riverbank Restoration

Lynch presented a plan, a cost breakdown and a copy of the grant to be submitted to the DNR for a River Management Grant to be submitted on February 1. We are working with Aaron Steber, a representative of Cardno JFNew, an ecological consulting and restoration firm.

The restoration will consist of using rootwads in a 50 foot section to steer the flow away from the bank with stone in other sections. The plan will also contain a flagstone walking path and wildflowers to be used as a geese deterrent. The plan will be created once we receive the grant and enter into a contract with Cardno JFNew.

The option for using the rootwads was encouraged by the River and Trails Task Force and supported by Street Superintendent Karl Manthe.

*Motion by O'Conner, seconded by Suess to recommend to Council to support the application of a Department of Natural Resources Grant for the purpose of stabilizing the bank with a combination of vegetation and stones. Motion passed 3-0.*

### 6. Large Park Conversation

The Comprehensive Parks and Open Space Plan addresses the need for a larger park for sport group activities and tournament hosting by proposing an extension to Racetrack Park through a land purchase when available. To create another option, staff will look into possible locations and costs for developing another large park.

7. Future Agenda Items

Large Park

Riverbank Restoration Grant

Skaalen Trail

8. Adjournment

Motion made by O'Conner and seconded by Sues to adjourn at 6:05. Motion passed 3-0.