

**Park Board Minutes  
November 13, 2023**

The meeting of the Maple Lake Park Board was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by John Haack, Vice Chairperson at the Maple Lake City Hall.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Haack, Hausken, Fobbe, Shields, and Helwig (5:15 p.m.)

**ABSENT:** none

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Renee Eckerly, City Administrator; Al Hudek, Public Works Director; Chuck Boser, City Engineer (via internet), Gary Stang

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was (m/s/p), Fobbe/Hausken to approve the minutes from August 14, 2023. All members present voted in favor.

**New Business**

**a. Review Concept Plan – A Park Board shall review the Concept Plan and available comments from the Consultants. The Park Board shall make a preliminary determination as to the park’s needs and/or location. This preliminary determination shall be forwarded to the Planning Commission for review and consideration.**

Chuck Boser, City Engineer (Stantec) review the Park section of the Memorandum submitted by Phil Carlson, City Planner (Stantec). The Dedication of land for parks, trails, and open space is required by the City’s Subdivision Ordinance in the amount of 10% of the gross land area. The Gross land area of this first phase of the property is 10.1 acres, requiring 1.01 acres of park dedication. Park Dedication of 1.27 acres on the north side of the newly proposed 5<sup>th</sup> Street is shown on the Concept Plan, satisfying the park dedication requirement. A proposed trail is shown extending north-south from 4<sup>th</sup> Street south to new 5<sup>th</sup> Street into the apartment site. The trail would be built by the developer with the apartment project.

The Park Board discussed the importance of the future park, when the additional land is developed, being contiguous to the proposed park. The size of the proposed park is like Jude Park which is located at 420 6<sup>th</sup> Street NW. The Park Board discussed with Stang the market rate apartments, parking, the need for housing in the community and that the concept meets the city’s requirements. The feedback was positive to continue the project.

**b. Discuss the criteria to cancel a board meeting.**

After a lengthy discussion, the current process of the City Administrator checking with the Public Works Director and then conferring with the Chairperson will be changed to an email being sent to all the Board members to inquire if anyone has any agenda items prior to the meeting being cancelled.

**c. Discuss access path from beach to the picnic/bathroom area.**

Eckerly, City Administrator reported that the city has applied for a State Park Road Account Program (SPRA) grant through the DNR utilizing Heidi Peper, Stantec. The grant, if awarded, would allow the city to pave 53<sup>rd</sup> Street to the Hwy 55 entrance, and the city’s portion would be to pave the parking lot. The Public Works Department could strip a pedestrian walkway from the beach to the picnic/restroom area. The award time for the grant was not sure, possible Spring 2024.

**d. Discuss status of repair to the guard rail at the entrance to the beach.**

Hudek, Public Works Director reported that he has contacted MNDOT regarding the need for the repair and MNDOT has no timetable when that repair work will be completed.

## Old Business

### a. Update on the security cameras at Community Park & Bolduan Park.

Al Hudek, Public Works Director reported that the cameras will be installed at the parks in the Spring 2024. The camera service for the picture storage is through the camera company and DJ Brown, Deputy Clerk has established an account, which is monthly payment. There was discussion regarding the need for signage stating that there are security cameras at the park. Eckerly, City Administrator reported that the City Attorney sent her an email stating no signage is required but there is retention schedule for the photos.

### b. Update on Pickleball courts.

Helwig read an email from Mike Rowe, School Superintendent dated October 9, 2023,

“The plan is to start the pickleball courts in the spring of 2024. We are talking with a few community groups to help with some of the project costs. We are also going to try to host a few indoor pickleball events this winter in our Activity Center. The other project we would like to know if the park board would be interested in helping with is our elementary playground project. We are looking at removing the wooden centennial playground and putting up something more modern. We have a lot of people who travel on Highway 55 stop and use it during the summer. If you have any questions, feel free to call me at 320-963-3114. “

The Park Board discuss the \$10,000 donation that was on January 17, 2023, that the city made to the school district for outdoor pickleball courts. At this time, there was no desire to donate more money to the school district.

### c. Update on picnic table canopy.

Hudek, Public Works Director reported on the quotes. The Board discussed the options, warranty, and colors. It was stated that multiple communities in the surrounding area are using this product. Hudek will get an updated quote with the new price.

A motion was (m/s/p), Hausken/Shields to recommend to the City Council to purchase one of Shade Option 2 the Hip Shade in blue for the increased price of \$6,952.00 plus freight from Capital Improvement funds for the beach. All present voted in favor.

### d. Update on curved table soccer (Teqball).

The Board discussed it and decided this is not a fit for this community.

### e. Discuss Ice Skating rink.

An ice-skating rink is under construction at the Maple Lake Bowl, 320 Maple Avenue N. It is understood by the lady involved in the construction that this rink would be available to the public. Because it is available to the public, the fire department will be doing the initial flooding.

**Next meeting date** - Next Meeting will be Monday, March 11, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

## Adjournment

A motion was m/s/p, Hausken/Helwig to adjourn at 6:18 p.m.

Attest,

Renee Eckerly  
City Administrator