

**REGULAR MEETING
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
City of Oakdale
June 16, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Oakdale Parks and Recreation Commission was held on Tuesday, June 16, 2020, at Oakdale City Hall, 1584 Hadley Avenue, Oakdale, Minnesota. The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Roettger at 7:00 PM.

CALL OF ROLL

On a call of roll, the following were present:

Commissioners: James Roettger
 Paul Lockhart
 Glen Giacoletto
 Steve Meyer
 Jenny Nyberg

Absent: Janet Cunningham
 Brian Bachmeier, City Engineer

Also Present: Colleen Swedberg, City Council
 Jeff Koesling, Parks Superintendent
 Julie Williams, Recreation Superintendent

Quorum Present: YES NO

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

WELCOME NEW COMMISSIONERS GLEN GIACOLETTO AND STEVE MEYER

APPROVAL OF MINUTES : Regular Meeting Minutes, February 18, 2020

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER LOCKHART, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER NYBERG TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 18, 2020 AS PRESENTED.

5 AYES 0 NAYS

CITY COUNCIL UPDATE - Colleen Swedberg

Councilperson Swedberg announced that Commissioner Roettger will be retiring and asked if he is willing to provide history to the commission if needed, to which he responded, he will.

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Tree Board Update - Councilmember Swedberg reported that the Oakdale Tree Board has vacancies for new members. Since the Tree Board is not a considered a commission, current commissioners are able to participate. They are hoping to partner with the Parks and Recreation Commission to possibly plant trees along some of the trails in the near future. In response to Commissioner Roettger's question if the Tree Board has contacted the DNR for trees/seedlings, Councilperson Swedberg replied that she will reach out to Loren Cota.

PARKS UPDATE - Jeff Koesling

Daily Maintenance - Parks Superintendent Koesling stated that without sports programs this year they were not able to hire as many seasonal staff. Due to wet weather, recent events in the city and the holiday, special projects are on hold. Plans are to begin the Tanner's Lake project at end of week or next.

In response to Commissioner Roettger's comment regarding compliance with and lack of handicapped parking at Tanner's Lake, Parks Superintendent Koesling will follow up with Brian Bachmeier.

Traveling Softball - A hybrid version of traveling softball and baseball will start soon. Adult softball will pay a couple nights per week.

In response to Commissioner Giacoletto's questions regarding who maintains school fields, Parks Superintendent Koesling replied that Oakdale and OAA use a few of the school fields and prep and drag fields on game days but does not have enough manpower to maintain regularly.

In response to Commissioner Nyberg's question why the department is short staffed, Parks Superintendent Koesling stated it was due to the Covid19 crisis and the cancelling of summer sports.

RECREATION UPDATE - Julie Williams

Summer Programs - Recreation Superintendent Williams reported that summer programs were divided into four groups: In Person, To Be Determined, Cancelled and Virtual. No summer staff was hired this year due to program cancellations. Smaller nature programs for preschoolers, art classes and late season yoga are still scheduled.

Farmer's Market - Started June 10 and has added safety measures such as hand sanitizing stations, additional cleaning and space between vendor/customer.

Community Walk - Began in May and has 262 participants.

Artist of the Month - Resumes in July.

OPEN FORUM:

Michael Lauderdale, President, Tartan Area Youth Hockey Association, reported that the hockey program will lose their ice rink at Tartan High School in the near future and inquired about a possible agreement with the city's outdoor rinks. There are talks with the school district to build a larger rink that would include showers and lockers but no plans as of yet.

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Parks Superintendent Koesling mentioned bids will open on Thursday, June 18 for the reconstruction of the ice rink at Walton Park. Plans are to have a portable rink that would be ready for use this winter.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Bearth Field - Commissioner Lockhart noted a bid was accepted by Peterson Fencing to repair backstops, replace cement along baselines and add a pop up fence over backstop. Additional updates will be done in future using a \$10,000 grant from the Minnesota Twins.

ADJOURNMENT

COMMISSIONER ROETTGER ADJOURNED THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION, DATED JUNE 16, 2020 , AT 7:24 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Teresa Buhl