

PERRYSBURG CITY COUNCIL

RECREATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 12, 2019

The Meeting was called to order at 6:40 P. M. in The Perrysburg Municipal Building. Present were Chairwoman Deborah Born, Committee members Jim Matuszak and Jonathan Smith, City Administrator Brigitte Kabat and Law Director Laura Alkire.

Citizen Concerns: Ruth Lucius, 26768 Ottekee Drive stated that she had come before the Committee last October to suggest that the City create a dog park. She wanted know know the status of this project. Ms. Born indicated that there has been no discussion since the last meeting. Ms. Born then asked Ms. Lucius if she had any recommendation as to where such a park would be appropriate. Ms. Lucius suggested Rotary Park or Three Meadows Park. Mr. Smith proposed Orleans Park but Ms. Lucius said she feels that would not be a good location because it often is flooded. Ms. Born asked what square footage would be necessary for the park. Ms. Lucius said she would find out.

Budget discussion: Ms. Born discussed the work sheet for the maintenance of parks, pool, and other recreation items. Ms. Born and Mr. Matuszak asked for further information about an allocation of \$80,000 for "Riverfront Park improvements". Ms. Kabat responded that the allocation was worded in that fashion so that portions of the \$80,000 could be used at any of the City's parks on the river at the administration's discretion. Ms. Born then asked about the \$96,000 allocation for Rivercrest Park. Ms. Kabat replied that the designation was an error and the allocation was actually for Riverside Park. The \$96,000 was a carryover from the previous years designated for seating, shading, and playground equipment. Ms. Born asked why these items had not been specifically listed in the budget. Ms. Kabat claimed that the allocation had been made in the December 2018 budget but Ms. Alkire indicated that it was not the December 2018 but December 2017 budget. Ms. Born stated that she did not take office until January 2018 and that none of this information had been brought to her attention at anytime during her tservice on Council as Recreation Chair. Mr. Matuszak suggested that any purchases intended for Riverside Park which cost more than \$10,000 should be approved by the Recreation Committee before they are made.

Mr. Smith asked if the \$100,000 for resurfacing and converting two existing tennis courts to pickle ball courts is to be used for the entire City or just Municipal Park. The answer was that the work is intended to be done in Municipal Park only.

Mr. Matuszak stated that in his opinion the \$952,500 which the administration wishes to spend on the construction of a "multi-use path" which would run from Orleans Park to Riverside Park is a waste of tax payer money and it would generate additional annual expenditures to restore the damage which winter ice jams and flooding cause each year. Mr. Matuszak also cited the \$125,526 for construction of a parking lot on the flood plain near Rapids Road as also a waste of tax payer dollars. The two projects together would cost well over \$1,000,000. Ms. Born agreed with Mr. Matuszak, stating that both projects would be built on a 100 year flood plain which often floods and produces ice jams. Ms. Kabat stated that she thought there was \$300,000 in grant money available but she did not clarify the source of this money. She said she thought a grant which had been was written in 2009 or 2010 had been approved by City Council at that time which was before she was employed by the City. Ms. Kabat stated that in order for the project to by completed the City Administration may be required to take property from adjacent property owners. on both sides of the Water Street right of way.

Riverside Park Cannons: Ms. Born stated that Kitty Gibson has presented many ideas and thoughts. Perrysburg Citizens Jon Orser and Steve Taylor are receptive to making contributions toward the purchase of the cannon stands. There was discussion concerning various issues including the right of donors to have a say in the design of the stands. Mark Weber, 836 Cherry, who is a member of the Historic Landmarks Commission noted that since the project will be located in the Local Historic District, designs must be approved by the HLC. Ms. Born responded that she is supportive of the HLC and will

see that correct procedure is followed, Mr. Matuszak reiterated that holding a fundraiser might be a good way to raise money for the project.

Meeting adjourned at 7:16 P. M.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, April 9 at 6:30 P. M.

Respectfully,
Deborah L. Born, Chairwoman
March 17, 2019