

The Regular Park Board Meeting of the Town of Schererville, Indiana, was called to order by President Brad Bassick at 6:00 p.m. in the Schererville Town Hall, 10 East Joliet Street, Schererville, Indiana.

The Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance was taken with the following Board Members present: Brad Bassick, Tom Malinowski, Ed Repay, and Joe Skvarek. Staff members present: Superintendent John Novacich, Attorney Christian Bartholomew, Administrative Coordinator Irene Mireles, Councilwoman Robin Arvanitis, and Recording Secretary Kristen Bohling.

THEREUPON, Approval of minutes for January 6, 2021

Mr. Malinowski made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 6, 2021 meeting, seconded by Mr. Skvarek. All in favor (4-0).

THEREUPON, Correspondence NONE

THEREUPON, Reports

Mr. Novacich said the post for the electric sign is going to be installed at Rohrman Park and the sign will most likely be installed the following week. An update needs to be done to the electric.

Mr. Novacich went over planned events for the year.

THEREUPON, Old Business

ITEM A. Autumn Creek Disc Golf Course

Mr. Malinowski asked if the parking at the park needs to be improved. Mr. Repay said that it needs to be addressed and should be included in the plan for the Disc Golf. The Board agreed to table the subject to further discuss a plan before giving approval to move forward.

ITEM B. Discuss Rohrman Concession Stand Operations

Mr. Bassick asked if the Board does not act on this tonight will it cause undue stress to staff. Ms. Mireles said there is some time as far as staffing, however it is the organizing that needs to be done, such as getting the equipment, getting wifi to the building, a POS system, etc. She said that the Board can wait to see what Schererville Baseball has to say, but there is equipment that needs to be purchased, regardless of who runs it.

Mr. Malinowski made a motion for staff to move forward with purchasing equipment needed for the concession stand at Rohrman Park and looking into a person or persons to staff it. Mr. Repay seconded the motion. All in favor (4-0).

ITEM C. Any other from Park Board NONE

THEREUPON, New Business

ITEM A. Consider Approval of NSA World Series Request

Speros Batistatos, President and CEO of the South Shore Convention and Visitors Authority, and Heather Becerra, Chief Marketing Officer of the South Shore Convention and Visitors Authority, approached the Board to discuss the

request. Mr. Batistatos said that this tournament can bring hundreds of thousands of dollars into the local economy in a matter of four days. This tournament brings between 170-225 softball teams from 28 states and Canada. Ms. Becerra said that NSA usually pays a fee of \$35.00 per game. Mr. Novacich said the criteria checklist includes portable fencing, but the Department does not have any. Mr. Repay suggested purchasing some. Mr. Novacich said the cost would be \$2,000.00 per field. Ms. Becerra said the Convention and Visitors Authority has some the Department could borrow. Mr. Batistatos said there is a substantial amount of snow fence and post left from the Air Show to loan the Department. Ms. Mireles said that because NSA does not know how many games are going to be played they are requesting to pay after the fact. Attorney Bartholomew asked if COVID-19 waivers will be provided. Ms. Becerra said that she will ask NSA about a waiver, but she assumes they have one that everyone has to sign. Mr. Mireles said Karl Swihart, from NSA, does have one. Attorney Bartholomew said it would be advisable that the Town be included on that waiver.

Mr. Skvarek made a motion to approve the NSA World Series request for Rohrman Park on July 21-25, pending review legal review of the COVID-19 waiver. Mr. Repay seconded the motion. All in favor (4-0).

ITEM B. Consider Approval of Event Request – Schererville Chamber Corn Roast

Lisa Williams-Elder, Vice President of the Schererville Chamber, and Jon Brackins, President of the Schererville Chamber, approached the Board to discuss their request. Ms. Williams-Elder said that the request is for July 30, 2021 and they are requesting the Showmobile fee and permit fee to be waived. Mr. Repay asked if the request is same as it has been in the past. Mr. Novacich said the request is the same as previous years.

Mr. Skvarek made a motion to approve the event request for the Schererville Chamber Corn Roast on July 30, 2021 and to waive the fees for the Showmobile and the park usage fee. Mr. Repay asked if the motion should include to discuss the beer garden. Mr. Novacich said next month agenda will include the list of events that beer and wine will be served, to recommend to the Town Council. He said the motion could include a contingency of Town Council approval.

Mr. Repay amended the motion to include approval of the sale of beer and wine, contingent on Town Council approval. Mr. Malinowski seconded the motion. All in favor (4-0).

ITEM C. Review of Beer Garden RFPs

Mr. Novacich said there are two RFPs for the Board to approve to send out. One is for the beer garden at the Schererville Festival on June 9-13 and the Fireworks on July 2. Mr. Novacich said the terms for both RFPs are the same as previous years.

Mr. Repay made a motion to send the RFPs to the public for proposals, seconded by Mr. Malinowski. All in favor (4-0).

ITEM D. Any other from Park Board

Mr. Novacich said Mr. Repay had mentioned buying portable fencing for Rohrman. The cost for that would be \$2,000.00 per field so it would be around \$8,000.00. Mr. Repay said he thought the fencing was included in the construction. Mr. Novacich said it was an item that was discussed, but was not purchased. He said the thought was to see how much the new fields would bring and see if that would be something beneficial. Mr. Malinowski said to borrow from the Convention and Visitors Authority this year and if staff thinks it is needed then to move forward with purchasing some. Mr. Repay said that he does

not want snow fencing on brand new fields. Mr. Malinowski asked if the Board needed to make a motion for Mr. Novacich to purchase the fencing. Mr. Novacich said no and that he would get quotes and submit it.

Mr. Novacich said that a specific site plan for Autumn Creek is needed for the playground placement and possible disc golf course. He said he has a meeting with one of the playground reps to discuss moving the playground, as well as updating playgrounds at other parks.

THEREUPON, Business from the floor

Councilman Caleb Johnson said that he plays disc golf and sees a lot of people on the courses and believes if one were to be put in at Autumn Creek it would get used.

The Board agreed to hold a study session at the community center on Wednesday, February 17, at 5pm.

Mr. Malinowski made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Skvarek. All in favor (4-0).

Next Park Board meeting will be held on March 3, 2021.

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