

Rochester City Park Board

Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2024

Attendees:

President/Secretary Alex Berlin (AB), Vice President Mitch Hayes (MH), Kim Landis (KL), Ed Richard (ER), Mayor Trent Odell

AB called meeting to order at 6 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

MH motioned to approve the November meeting minutes. KL seconded. All approved

**Daughters of American Revolution (DAR)**

DAR is requesting to plant a liberty tree honoring Americas 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2026. The tree will honor the two American Patriots buried in Fulton County with a plaque. It will be a White Pine, symbolic of the colonies. They are open to park board direction on where to plant the tree. ER motions to approve permission for the tree so that the DAR can apply for a Grant. Motion states that location and cost is to be decided, but that the park board will match the grant up to \$500 as needed. KL seconds. All approve

**Marketing- Jessica Shafer**

Light up the Park- A lighting ceremony will be held on December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. 8 stations are ready to go plus the big pavilion, Manitou mountain are lit. RTC and REMC have provided a lit tunnel entrance to the park. The park board will hand out candy canes at the entrance.

**Golf Course- Lee-**

Lee has researched 3 different new point of sale systems. Lee will talk to Tee Snap about the potential move and review our contract with them.

We plan to keep all rates the same for 2025

We will close on days that have snow or frost and close for good on December 31<sup>st</sup> for the year

Year to date 2024 closeout was \$506,222.71 compared to \$485,956.99 at the same time last year

**Golf Course- Anthony- Not present**

MH made a motion to approve an increase of \$4000 to the purchase of a 3300 Triflex Toro mower, approved at last meeting. KL seconded. All approved

**Parks and Pool- Duane Border-**

Buddenbohm and Moore have started demolition at the pool. We will get rid of the old water slide.

Pool chemicals will get ordered soon

Duane will be adding an office to the park maintenance building, as well as lining the walls with some insulation and OSB.

### **Summer Parks Program**

Lindsay Barts presented a budget for the summer parks program, which was in line with the budget that we prepared for on the overall parks budget before getting approved at City Council.

AB motioned to hire Lindsay Barts as the Summer Parks Program Director at a pay rate of \$24.50 per hour, hours per the 2025 parks program calendar. The motion also includes hiring Abigail Cronan as Assist Director at a pay rate of \$20.00 per hour, hours per the 2025 parks program calendar. KL seconded. AB, KL, ER approved, MH voted against due to the rate, the motion passed. These costs are already budgeted.

The goal is to charge \$35 per child per week which will include breakfast and lunch. Lindsay plans to look for grants and business sponsorships so that we can offer scholarships to kids in need.

### **5 Year Park Plan Discussion**

Waiting on a written plan and final steering committee meetings by the end of the year

#### Miscellaneous

We received a bid of \$125,000 to purchase our property, which is a wetland reserve, on County Road 500 East. The bid was from Joel Miller of Nappanee, IN. KL motioned to accept the bid, MH seconded. KL, MH, ER approved and AB voted against, the motion passed.

ER motioned to give Duane border power to represent the board to close on the property and sign documents on our behalf. MH seconded. All approved.

AB motion to close. MH second. Meeting Adjourned