

PARKS COMMISSIONERS
MASON LIBRARY
231 MAIN STREET
GREAT BARRINGTON, MA 01230
MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2013
5:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

PAUL GIBBONS

CHARLES BOUTEILLER

THOMAS NORTON

STEVE BANNON

PATRICIA SALVI - ABSENT

KATHY PLUNGIS- ABSENT

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

MOTION: Steve Bannon to approve the minutes from the July 8, 2013 meeting.

SECOND: Tom Norton

VOTE: 4-0

MOTION: Tom Norton to approve the minutes from the July 31, 2013 meeting.

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 3-0-1 (Steve abstained)

2. **PARKS CARE AND MAINTENANCE:**

A. Updates from Joe Sokul – DPW Superintendent – Joe advised the contracts were sent out for the Housatonic Playground Equipment. The purchase order was issued for the instillation. The purchase order has been issued for the swing set at Lake Mansfield. Joe said he had a quote for the installation of the exercise equipment for South Street Park from P&P Instillations. The quote is for \$6,495.00.

MOTION: Steve Bannon to approve expending \$6,495.00 for the instillation of the equipment.

SECOND: Charlie Bouteiller

VOTE: 4-0

Joes advised that the Procurement Rules have changed. For anything \$10,000 or less you can do a purchase order. We don't have to go through procurement.

Steve suggested that in September the board review how much money we have for capital money and decide what we want to spend on parks improvements. Paul advised that Lauren has carried forward in Parks Improvement \$5,600. Our original appropriation was \$3,500. The revised budget was \$9,100. In the Capital Budget our appropriation was \$35,000 but our revised budget is \$94,000. All the Housatonic equipment will be taken out of the Capital Budget as well as the \$6,495.00. \$4,995 is encumbered for the fence repairs at Memorial Field. Joe advised the

repairs at the skate park around the bowl for \$5,650. A 4' section will be taken out around the bowl, it will be compacted and asphalt will be brought in.

MOTION: Steve Bannon to approve expending \$5,650 to fix the skate bowl. .

SECOND: Charlies Bouteiller

VOTE: 4-0

The extension of the water line at Olympian Meadows: Joe said Wilkinson's gave an estimate to replace the fountains and to save money, the Town will purchase the materials and we would do the waiver of the equipment instillation. The total cost is \$18,245.00. The materials will cost \$2,025.37. Joe said up to \$20,000 was approved to include the sewer. This is just the water line extension. The sewer will have to be budgeted next year. Paul noted that the budget estimate two years ago was \$10,000 for each. Joe said the sewer will be cheaper because 600 feet of line doesn't have to be run. We can do it from where the snack shack is now perpendicular to the river and tie into the force main. Joe said he would return to the September meeting with prices for the sewer line.

MOTION: Charles Bouteiller to table the water line until September when Joe presents the figures for the sewer line.

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 4-0

3. **PARKS USAGE REQUEST:**

A. Fairview Hospital to use Memorial Field on Saturday, September 28, 2013 from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. to use as a launch site for fireworks to be part of the Fairview Hospital Gala.. Amy Rudnick was present to explain the request. She advised that Berkshire Fireworks will handle the fireworks display which will take place at approximately 9:45 p.m. and last for about 5 to 7 minutes. She noted this is for the 100th anniversary of Fairview Hospital.

MOTION: Thomas Norton to approve.

SECOND: Charlies Bouteiller

VOTE: 3-0

Steve Bannon recused himself because he is an employee of Fairview Hospital

4. **BERKSHIRE SOUTH**

A. Jenise Lucey advised there was an incident at the Housatonic Playground where a child was supposedly bullied by a staff member. Jenise advised that Laura Martin investigated it. The schedule was changed and the staff member was advised of the proper protocol for dealing with situations like this. Jenise said she was advised that the parent of the child was abusive to the staff member. It was noted to review the policy about the playground not being a daycare center. Jenise also advised that there are bees coming out of the mulch. Joe advised that the DPW does spray in the morning.

Other issues:

One chair at the lake is missing a board.

Jenise said that someone was taking pictures at the lake. She said the police investigated the incident and noted his child was in the photos. The staff would like a changing room.

Paul advised that last year we exceeded the budget for Berkshire south. We may have to look at expenses and make changes in the October coverage for the skate park. \$55,000 was budged.

The July bill was a little over \$24,000 and going through August we will probably expend

around \$48,000. He advised we then will have the September and October coverage at the skate park. We will have to monitor this and make some changes. Paul said he suggested that Laura look at the projected costs for September and October at the skate park. Jenise noted that we will have to decide if we want to open the skate park in April or keep it open through October. She asked about the lights at the skate park. Joe said he thought they were triggered by light and dark.

Jenise advised that there was a question about the helmet age regulation. Jenise said that the Massachusetts Bicycle Helmet Safety Law for Minors (MGL Ch. 85, Sec. 11B1/2 says "any child 16 years of age or younger operating or riding as a passenger on bicycle, scooter, in-line skates, skateboard or other manually propelled vehicle on a public way, bike path or any other public right-of-way must wear an approved helmet." Paul asked Joe Sokul to order 3 or 4 signs and post them with that wording. Jenise also noted that the Police are coming through 2 or 3 times a night.

MOTION: Steve Bannon to adjourn

SECOND: Charlie Bouteiller

VOTE: 4-0

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Carolyn Wichmann
Secretary