

PARKS COMMISSIONERS  
MASON LIBRARY  
231 MAIN STREET  
GREAT BARRINGTON, MA 01230  
MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2014  
5:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

PAUL GIBBONS

CHARLES BOUTEILLER – Not Present

THOMAS NORTON

STEPHEN BANNON

PATRICIA SALVI

KATHY PLUNGIS

KAREN SMITH – Not Present

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

Paul advised that the order of business is to settle the purchase of equipment for the Alice A. Bubriski Playground at the Housatonic Village Commons.

Update: Balance of Capital Account/Improvement Account - \$7,318.75. Paul advised we are going to recode one of the purchase orders for the infield mix that was purchased for Olympian Meadows which will add another \$900.00 to the account. The total amount of money is \$8,312.15. It was noted that the \$5,000 that was paid inadvertently to American Playground Corp of Anderson, Indiana for mulch has not been reimbursed to the Town.

MOTION: Stephen Bannon that we write a letter to the Town Manager saying we haven't forgotten about the \$5,000 and would like the money carried over because it is our money. She should contact the Finance Committee and take it out of Free Cash.

SECOND: Pat Salvi

VOTE: 5-0

It was noted that the correct vendor was paid. The original sum of money was lost from the Parks Account. Paul said the last contact he had with Lauren and Jennifer was apparently the company is in bankruptcy. Paul advised at this present time nobody has pursued any legal action and town council hasn't done anything to the best of his knowledge.

Paul said he asked if money could be transferred from other accounts within Parks into the improvement account. He was told he couldn't because this is a capital account and we can't transfer money from an operating account to a capital account.

Joe updated the board on the repair of the skate bowl. He noted he spoke to the contractor and it should be done in a week to 10 days.

We have quotes from John LaRue from Big Toys, and O'Brien and Sons. Amy Almore, resident of Housatonic has a quote from Miracle Company. Cindy Maak is the representative for the area. She has done French Park and is currently doing a big project in Pittsfield. We received feedback from the community and two pieces missing is equipment for toddlers and older children. She noted anything for the older children usually includes ropes and moving parts and is expensive. It was noted that this company is on the state bid list. Also the board was advised if we did a community build, it would save approximately \$1,500 and it would be supervised by the company. Tom noted he would like to see swings included in the plan. Paul asked if the instillation only includes the physical labor and whatever site work

that needs to be done to install this. Emily Shaw said she was not sure if mulch was included, she would have to clarify that. John LaRue said it did not include the mulch. There is already mulch there. It was Swings are located there now but they need new seats and chains.

Paul said that we have 3 plans: The one from O'Brien and Sons includes a lot of things that we would not be able to accommodate based on the money we have left. Kathy noted they are taking out the PlaySense Design and the swings. The Curved Tunnel, the Double Bobble Rider, the Rhino Dino Spring Rider, and the seesaw comes to \$6,575.00 which brings the instillation fee down to \$1,550 and the total of that is \$8,125.00.

John LaRue – his quote is \$6,172 with the instillation was \$2,200 for a total of \$8,372.00.

Emily Shaw said she is recommending her proposal.

**MOTION:** Kathy Plungis that we accept the members of the Housatonic Village Planning Committee to accept the Miracle Equipment quotation

**SECOND:** Pat Salvi

**VOTE:** 5-0

Paul explained what we have done is to accelerate the expenditures at the playground so in the coming fiscal year we will have to concentrate on some of the other areas.

Maintenance Requests - replacing the deteriorating swing seats. Paul said we can order the seats. This will be in FY15.

Trash and recycling receptacles – Emily asked if they could be built by volunteers. She would like the kind that is at Lake Mansfield. Joe suggested they look at the ones at Olympian Meadows.

Picnic Table – Joe said that is difficult unless you have one that is installed in the ground. During the winter months the guys from Cemetery will fix picnic tables.

Make water fountain functional – Joe said he is working on that now.

The portable toilets will be ordered and will be there when the playground opens for summer.

Steve thought we purchased cement tables for Memorial Field. Joe said he would take a look at them.

Tree planting and landscaping – we will have to work with the community. The tree committee doesn't have a budget and maybe you could solicit from vendors. Emily thought that around Arbor Day that we would have a good chance of getting donated trees and donated instillation. Paul said he talked to a member of the Tree Committee about it and there is a possibility that Parks could expend funds for a tree.

We do not want to have community people to decide they want to plant a tree there without checking to see if that is a good tree to plant there. The process is to present a plan. Paul said he will be doing a purchase order for the playground equipment. Joe advised a copy of the state contract will be needed. Paul said for Emily to give Cindy Maak his e-mail address and ask her to contact him.

Respectfully Submitted,



Carolyn Wichmann  
Secretary