

**PARKS BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
April 20, 2022
6:30 PM**

Nina Schroeder called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

Roll Call: Don Buchert, Marty Hura, Nina Schroeder, Scott Weaver, Cookie Vanek

Other Village Personnel Present: Mayor Linda Clark

Citizens Present: None

- ❖ Motion to approve minutes from March 16, 2022 made by Don, seconded by Scott; all “ayes” given.

New Business:

- Mayor Clark sent an email to Phil Rath of the Downtown Mantua Revitalization Committee (DMRC), updating him with data (pricing; narrative; draft of interagency agreement) regarding Phase 4 at Buchert Park.
 - Per the mayor, Phil responded that the DMRC will review and may have to scale back the project—as they are committing money to the upgrade projects on Main St.
 - The DMRC originally estimated that the total cost for Phase 4 would be \$30,000; this figure was generated through service quotes provided by Broc Benner (plus the CT Consultants fee).
 - CT Consultants, on the other hand, estimated that the total cost is \$55,000.
 - The mayor states that, per the bid packet, Phase 4 work must be completed by the end of Summer 2022; she wondered if, because the DMRC would not be encumbered by this project for very long, perhaps they can commit money to both projects temporarily.
 - If the DMRC cannot fund the total cost of Phase 4, the Village may have to turn part or all of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) grant back, as the Village cannot afford to encumber the costs of Phase 4 at this time.
 - Scott wonders whether the DMRC itself would be willing to complete this Phase, directly funding/completing the upgrades at the estimated price-points they gave.
 - If the DMRC agrees to this, the Village may approve and oversee the project.
 - Marty proposes that the ODNR grant be returned altogether and Phase 4 canceled, should the DMRC decide to reduce the project.

- The mayor reports that Buchert Park Phase 3 bidding has begun.
 - The deadline is Friday, April 22, 2022 at 3 p.m.
 - Bid packets were picked up by two companies; neither have been returned yet.
 - If no bids are turned in by the deadline, the due date will be extended by two weeks.
 - The Board speculates whether companies are hesitant to bid because the work exceeds \$50,000 (Phase 3's estimated cost is \$85,000).
 - Scott and Marty wonder if we can parcel out portions of the project, halving the work and completing each half over two years, to reduce costs and increase bids.
- The mayor reports that a final payout for Buchert Park Phase 2 (totaling \$19,000) has been approved and will be reimbursed/rolled into the Park Improvement fund #4903—to be used for subsequent Phases.
- The mayor reports that if Issue 7 fails on May 3, then budgetary cuts will be made to Parks, Shade Tree (which finances leaf and brush pick-up services, for example), and Cemetery funds in an effort to keep the Mantua Police Department staffed as it is right now.
 - The Parks Improvement fund is already low because of recent repairs and replacements required (e.g., hot water tank, furnace, toilets, frozen sanitary line, and filters).
 - Cookie brainstorms money-making strategies to bring funds in; the Lodge could generate more money if it is used more purposefully, rented out more regularly, and priced out more consistently.
- Nina seeks to clarify the difference between the Park Improvement fund #4903 and Park Trust fund #4952.
 - Marty and the Mayor clarify: money was bestowed to the Village and put into fund #4952; only earned interest can be used by the Village; the balance (\$21,000) rolls over into the General Fund yearly.
 - Marty explains that he and Ralph Gregory originally set up this fund; the mayor will look for documentation clarifying how/if this balance can be accessed/used more effectively.

Old Business:

- The Mantua sign and kiosk at English Realty are on hold.

- Phase 5 bathroom plans are on hold.
- The mayor coordinated with Crestwood Ponytail League (CPL) President Bob Koslosky, and the CPL graciously repaired benches and bleachers at the south ball field.
- The mayor will reach out again to Christine Craycroft of the Portage Park District to see if she has any more information about the Esker Trail signs and two concrete benches that are missing from Headwaters Trail.
- ❖ Motion to adjourn made by Scott at 7:18 p.m., seconded by Don; all “ayes” given.