

PARKS COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
TOWN HALL
334 MAIN STREET
GREAT BARRINGTON, MA
MONDAY, JUNE 14, 2016
5:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

PAUL GIBBONS

KAREN SMITH

CHARLES BOUTEILLER

THOMAS NORTON

STEPHEN BANNON

PATRICIA SALVI

KATHY PLUNGIS – 5:30 P.M.

ANTHONY TROIANO

DONOVAN LALLY

Call to Order:

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A. Minutes of May 16, 2016

MOTION: Karen Smith to approve

SECOND: Pat Salvi

VOTE: 7-0

2. **PARKS USAGE REQUESTS:**

A. Kathy Daly – Sugar Shack Alliance (Berkshire Environmental Action Team) to use the Lawn and Gazebo behind Town Hall on Saturday, July 16, 2016 from 12:00 Noon to 1:00 p.m. (setup following end of prior performance, and cleanup at 1:00 to 1:30 p.m. The event is a one hour informational event on piped fracked gas of concern to residents in the Berkshires and other areas of Western Mass. She noted she does have Liability Insurance and would forward that at a later date.

MOTION: Karen Smith to approve.

SECOND: Stephen Bannon

VOTE: 8-0

3. **PARKS CARE AND MAINTENANCE:**

A. Updates from Joe Sokul – DPW Superintendent – Not Present.

Karen noted that the playground equipment that was ordered last October has been at the installer's for months. The Olympian Meadows field was measured and dug for the swing set.

The purchase orders for the fence repairs have all been signed. What is the status?

Grove Street Park; Karen has been in touch with John MacGruer via e-mail about knot weed, etc.

Karen said she and Pete Soules went up to the park to look at the knot weed which is on the back border on Coyle's property. Within 4' of the knot weed there is a stack of fire wood. There was a red maple tree that someone cut down.

MOTION: Karen that Park and Recreation replace the tree at Grove Street Park.

SECOND: Stephen Bannon

VOTE: 8-0

Paul said he would talk to Wards about a new tree.

Karen asked Pete if the DPW could sweep the tennis court at Grove Street Park in the spring and summer. She was advised that there is no manpower to do it. The curbing issue has been discussed with Joe Sokul and he said that there was never curbing there and they aren't going to put it in. Karen said there is a fountain stone work that needs to be cemented in. Karen requested that Pete Soules put it on the list.

4. **OLD BUSINESS:**

A. Available Capital Funds – Paul noted he hasn't seen the invoice for the infield mix that is at the Little League Field. That is part of the encumbered funds because there is a purchase order for that. Excavating for \$14,040 has been done at Housatonic. The equipment that is at P&P has a purchase order. Karen thought there was about \$8,000 left in the improvements line item. Paul noted that a new weed barrier was installed at Lake Mansfield and there is not enough money in the Lake Management Account to pay it. The total amount is \$4,388 plus \$754 for more pipes. The total bill is \$5,142.00.

MOTION: Stephen Bannon to request the Town Manager to carry over the capital that remains as of June 30, 2016 and add it to the new appropriation.

SECOND: Karen Smith

VOTE: 8-0

B. RSYP – Gardens at Schneider Youth Center – Not Present.

C. Millers – any updates on improvements – not present – Karen noted that the dugout roofs have been redone by the Millers and Babe Ruth. Paul said he spoke to Pete about bringing some paint from the Little League Field and put it in the shed at Memorial Field. Paul said he would contact Tom Ingersoll and John Lucey.

Karen noted at the last meeting it was brought up that the line item for the Recreational programs was short funds for payroll. The Town Manager is going to ask the Finance Committee for a Reserve Fund Transfer to cover the rest of the fiscal year. Janiece from Berkshire South provided the Town Manager with an amendment to the contract for this year and the next two years.

D. Housatonic Park – Karen, Tom and Joe went out to look at the park approximately 7 weeks ago. We asked Joe to obtain a quote. The quote that was received was \$15,500. Karen noted she wanted a detail quote. The quote came back noting \$6,380 for Concrete, \$2000.00 for pavers, Edging \$870 and prep of site and cleanup \$6,250 for a total of \$15,500. Karen advised that one reason the quote is so high is because of prevailing wage at \$48.00 per hour. Tom and Andy Troiano will review the plans done by Craig Okerstrom Lang and then Karen and Tom will contact the Town Manager about putting out an RFP so the cost of completing the project will be known. Tom noted that the installer would like to put in the adult exercise equipment after the picnic area has been prepared. The exercise equipment, bench, table and cooker are still being stored at P&P.

5. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Appointment of representative for parks to the Community Preservation Committee.

MOTION: Stephen Bannon to recommend Karen Smith.

SECOND: Pat Salvi

VOTE: 8-0

6. **CITIZEN'S SPEAK:**

Ed Abrahams advised that Eisner Camp is doing a Service Day for kids between the age 10 and 12. The Parks Commissioners recommended that they could sweep the tennis court at Grove Street and weed the warning track at Memorial Field.

7. **COMMISSIONERS SPEAK:**

Kathy Plungis presented the meeting notes from the Monday, June 13, 2016 meeting of the Lake Mansfield Task Force Alliance. She referred to the recommendation from KZLA group based on three on-line surveys, public forums and the Task Force taking into account pedestrian, biker needs, lake health and vehicular traffic. (A copy of the notes is attached to these minutes). Chris Rembold and Christine Ward will attend the July meeting to update the Parks on the KZLA Lake Mansfield report. It will give the commissioners the choice of a Yes or No vote on the recommendations from KZLA.

8. **NEXT MEETING DATE:**

A. July 11, 2016

9. **ADJOURNMENT:**

6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Carolyn Wichmann
Secretary