



NORTH BRANCH

—Minnesota—

**PARKS, TRAILS AND OPEN SPACE
COMMISSION
REGULAR AGENDA
MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2024 @ 7:00 PM
CITY HALL, 6408 ELM STREET, NORTH
BRANCH, MN 55056**

Charlie Klopp
Chair

Lynn Wilson

Bob Bernier

Farfum Ladroma

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE OF THE CITY OF NORTH BRANCH IN THE COUNTY OF CHISAGO AND IN THE STATE OF MINNESOTA

REGULAR MEETING

Monday, January 8, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Charles Klopp, Commissioner Farfum Ladroma, Commissioner Lynn Wilson

Absent: Commissioner Bob Bernier

Remote:

Others Present:

Notes:

4. MINUTES

a. Approve December 4, 2023 Minutes

ACTION

Motion by Klopp to recommend approval of the December 4, 2023 minutes. Seconded by Ladroma. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Charles Klopp

SECONDER: Farfum Ladroma

AYES: Charles Klopp, Farfum Ladroma, Lynn Wilson

ABSENT: Bob Bernier

NOTES:

5. REPORTS

a. Park Fund Balances Jan 2024

INFO

Sondrol provided an overview of the park fund balances.

b. Project Updates January 2024

INFO

Sondrol provided an overview of the project updates.

Ladroma inquired if there had been any updates on the EV chargers. Sondrol noted that the public works director is exploring this. Wilson inquired on the fees for users of the chargers and if that would be competing with entities such as Holiday. Sondrol noted that there has been discussion with partnering with some commercial businesses.

Klopp suggested promoting the concerts in the park series and highlighting the Dweebs as they are not performing in other local markets. Sondrol noted that January 15 is the official start date of the contract.

Sondrol noted that the council would be discussing the Flink Ave trail engineering at their next council meeting.

Sondrol informed the commission that CSAH 30 project was moving forward and that they would be meeting with some of the adjacent property owners on the initial design with a full public input meeting to follow.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Recommend Carchedi Commons Plat II

ACTION

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Charles Klopp

SECONDER: Lynn Wilson

AYES: Charles Klopp, Farfum Ladroma, Lynn Wilson

ABSENT: Bob Bernier

NOTES:

Sondrol provided an overview of the Carchedi Commons Plat II.

The Commission discussed trail and sidewalks in the area noting that there are no other existing trails or sidewalks in the area to connect to. The commission felt that the property owners should be made aware that a trail or sidewalk could be installed in the future.

Motion by Ladroma to recommend the acceptance of cash for park dedication as the increase in the number of residents will place additional demands on the city's parks, trails and open space system. Seconded by Wilson. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

b. Happy Acres Morning Vista

ACTION

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Charles Klopp

SECONDER: Lynn Wilson

AYES: Charles Klopp, Farfum Ladroma, Lynn Wilson

ABSENT: Bob Bernier

NOTES:

Sondrol provided an overview of the Happy Acres Morning Vista development.

Wilson inquired about the previous review of the property. Sondrol noted that the parcel was reviewed with the Happy Acres Morning View development and this portion of the development was created as an outlot and included with the acceptance of cash for park dedication.

Wilson inquired about the ability to install a trail. Sondrol noted that the comp plan identified a trail on the valley bottom and that was located outside of the property limits. He noted that there is right-of-way that is being dedicated with the plat that would allow for a trail in the future along Hemingway.

Motion by Klopp to recommend the acceptance of cash for park dedication as the increase in the number of residents will place additional demands on the city's parks, trails and open space system. Seconded by Wilson. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

7. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Northwood Pickleball Court and Site Improvements - Authorize Bids ACTION

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Lynn Wilson

SECONDER: Farfum Ladroma

AYES: Charles Klopp, Farfum Ladroma, Lynn Wilson

ABSENT: Bob Bernier

NOTES:

Sondrol provided an overview of the Northwood Park improvement project and cost estimate. He noted that the cost estimate received was higher than the estimated cost with the grant application. He noted that the revised cost estimate included the contractor installing the walkways which was not originally planned and additional walkway modification to meet ADA requirements.

Motion by Wilson to approve a resolution to authorize city staff to obtain bids for the Northwood Park Pickleball Court and Site Improvement project and to review bids at the March 2024 meeting. Seconded by Ladroma. All vote AYE. Motion carried.

- b. Strategic Plan Splash Pad INFO

Sondrol informed the Commission that the City Council would be discussing budgeting for a facility assessment at the January 9 council meeting that may impact that the location of a future community center. He provided the commission with costs from the City of Isanti in their efforts to install a splash pad.

Wilson felt that the city hosting a community input meeting would help identify what the community would want in a splash, whether it be one larger facility or multiple smaller facilities.

Wilson felt that a workshop should be held with the other city commissions and council that could include a guest speaker discussing the economic development benefits of parks and rec for a city. She felt that a meeting should be held in the next month or two. Wilson noted that a staff member from WSB had conducted a presentation at the league of Minnesota cities about this topic.

Sondrol noted that discussions had taken place to bring the commissions and council together with the facility assessment that is being proposed.

The commission discussed when a meeting could be held where. Wilson inquired about the meeting being open to the public. Sondrol noted that it would be open to the public.

Sondrol noted that the council has existing worksession dates scheduled for the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

The commission came to a consensus to recommend requesting a joint work session to be held with all the other city commissions and city council to discuss the goals and visions of the commissions and to invite a guest speaker to discuss the importance and role of parks, trails open space in a community.

Sondrol noted that he would bring this to the City Council on the January 23 meeting.

8. NEXT MEETING -February 5, 2024

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ladroma to adjourn. Seconded by Wilson. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned.

RESULT: Passed
MOVER: Farfum Ladroma
SECONDER: Lynn Wilson
AYES: Charles Klopp, Farfum Ladroma, Lynn Wilson
ABSENT: Bob Bernier
NOTES:

APPROVED: Charles Klopp ATTEST: Nathaniel

