



MINUTES

Committee of the Whole Special Meeting Wednesday, January 20, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89337029788>; ID: 893 3702 9788; or Dial in: (646) 876 9923

Held virtually in an effort to protect the health and safety of the public & to mitigate the spread of COVID 19

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Spadafore called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT- via audio/video

Councilmember Peter Spadafore remotely from Lansing, Michigan

Councilmember Adam Hussain remotely from Lansing, Michigan

Councilmember Carol Wood remotely from Lansing, Michigan

Councilmember Patricia Spitzley remotely from Lansing, Michigan

Councilmember Kathie Dunbar remotely from Lansing, Michigan-arriving at 6:28 p.m.

Councilmember Brandon Betz remotely from Lansing, Michigan

Councilmember Jeremy Garza remotely from Lansing, Michigan

Councilmember Brian T. Jackson remotely from Lansing, Michigan- unexcused

MEMBERS PRESENT- via audio/video

Sherrie Boak, Council Staff

Brett Kaschinske, Parks and Recreation Director

Jim Smiertka, City Attorney

Veronica Gracia-Wing

Dale Schrader

Lisa Hagen, OCA

Loretta Stanaway

Jeffrey Brown

Patty Lyons

Council Member Wood referenced the plan in relation to the capital improvement plan, and asked Mr. Kaschinske to highlight that portion of the plan.

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM JANUARY 11, 2021 AS PRESENTED. ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Presentation

Parks & Recreation Master Plan 2020-2025

Council President Spadafore clarified that tonight is a presentation and action will be at the meetings on January 25, 2021.

The meeting paused at 6:07 p.m. to allow Mr. Kaschinske an opportunity to adjust his audio. The meeting restarted at 6:09 p.m.

Mr. Kaschinske went through a brief Power Point on the plan, including the five (5) goals and objectives, the process that was taken thus far with the collection of over 600 surveys, and the work sessions that began in January 2020. Regarding specifically recent inquiries on the Moore's Park Pool, they have recently hired a consultant to do an analysis so that the City can evaluate to determine what needs to be done, cost, and what needs to be done in the future. In terms of the CIP Projects, those are listed in the plan, the review them annually, and there is strong support on the Parks millage. In the last election, the Ingham County Trails millage was passed also, so that funding is able to be used along the river trail.

Council Member Spitzley referenced the topic of the Moore's Park pool, and all the recent communications from residents to rehab the pool. In the past the funding for this has always been a topic. She then asked Mr. Kaschinske if the philosophy had changed over the years to preserving the pool, and secondly are they looking to put it into a foundation, or what will the study tell the City that they don't already know. Mr. Kaschinske confirmed the study will confirm what the City already knows on the multiple repairs, but this will provide details on what improvements are needed, and what those will cost. A partnership that has been established with Fenner, and recently Rotary Park could be looked at as an option similar for Moore's Park. Council President Spadafore supported creative ways to address this property, knowing that all the funds cannot be spent on this one project. Council Member Wood referenced the action plan which outlines a trust fund, and applying for State dollars. She asked about the dog parks in the plan. Mr. Kaschinske stated both of those in the plan were requests from the residents in those neighborhoods and supported seeking support in their neighborhoods. Council Member Wood then asked what location was being considered for the upgrading of the flooring item. Mr. Kaschinske stated they are looking at Gier Community Center in the balcony area, and some areas have carpeted area. Council Member Wood then asked about the Red Cedar Development connection, being under the impression that was part of the development, so questioned why it is listed in the plan. Mr. Kaschinske stated it is extending the river trail into the Red Cedar project, noting that just because listed in the plan, it does not mean millage dollars would be going into the project. Council Member Wood asked about accessibility ramps, tables and paths for wheel chairs, and asked where it is referenced in the plan. Mr. Kaschinske confirmed accessibility is one of the five (5) goals, so these are covered in their plan and will be updated with current ADA standards. Council Member Wood lastly spoke on the support of work on rehabilitation at the Moore's Park pool. Mr. Kaschinske confirmed they have put funds into the analysis of this project, but there is no talk of decommissioning until the City gets the report to see where they have decisions to make. Council Member Betz asked Mr. Kaschinske if they have reached out to the sustainability manager on how to address climate change in the future, and Mr. Kaschinske stated they have not, so he was encouraged to reach out to the employee. Council Member Betz then spoke on the plan, and refugee outreach, asking what "outreach" looks like to address COVID, language barriers and how to address services they are not or cannot receive at the City. Mr. Kaschinske stated they have recently installed recreational opportunities within those diverse communities and introduce those sports to residents who have never seen those types of recreational opportunities. With COVID, unfortunately some activities have had to be removed to keep people safe. Council Member Betz asked about planning in the plan regarding COVID, and asked if those changes are temporary or permanent, and are they accounting for the cost to revert back post-pandemic. Mr. Kaschinske acknowledged some things will be permanent, such as outdoor classes; looking at things depends on what the amenity is.

Public Comment

Ms. Garcia- Wing spoke in support of the Moore's Park pool as a priority, and foundation formation of Parks Foundation working together, and recent fund raising from Preservation Lansing and residents they hope to provide to the City.

Mr. Schrader spoke in support of the work done by the City to keep the pool at Moore's Park.

Ms. Stanaway spoke in support of the continuation of the functioning of Moore's Park pool, and further development in the cemeteries.

Mr. Brown spoke on the accessibility goal in the plan, and also spoke in support of the work at Moore's Park pool.

Ms. Lyons spoke on the need of playground equipment in smaller parks particularly Scott Woods park and more parking spots.

Council President Spadafore provided the City Council general email for anyone listening that has additional comments before they take action on Monday, 1/25/2021.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 pm

Respectfully Submitted by,

Sherrie Boak, Recording Secretary

Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on January 25, 2021