

**MINUTES
PARK BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 28TH, 2020
5:30 P.M.**

THE PARK BOARD MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 12 NORTH ROWE STREET, PRYOR, OKLAHOMA AT THE ABOVE-MENTIONED DATE AND TIME.

BOARD MEMBERS: ** BILL KANNEGIESSER, MELINDA MARKS, PAT RICHARD, WAYNE JONES, LORI SIEVER, CHRIS GRAVES, KEITH SHELBY.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER.

Bill Kannegiesser called the Park Board meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Members present: Bill Kannegiesser, Melinda Marks, Pat Richard, Wayne Jones, Lori Siever, Chris Graves, Keith Shelby. Members absent: none.

Others present: Mayor Larry Lees, Park Superintendent Frank Powell, Golf Director Dennis Bowman, Donna Bowman, Terry Aylward, Robert Taylor, Tracey Taylor, Beverly Taylor, Laura Fox and Collene Dinsmore.

2. DISCUSS, POSSIBLY APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 27TH, 2020 REGULAR MEETING.

Motion was made by Richard, second by Jones to approve the minutes of the April 27th, 2020 regular meeting. All voted yes.

3. DISCUSS, POSSIBLY RECOMMEND COUNCIL ACTION REGARDING USE OF WHITAKER PARK BY THE MAYES COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB ON SATURDAY, JUNE 27TH, 2020 THROUGH SUNDAY, JUNE 28TH, 2020 FOR THEIR ANNUAL FIELD DAY EVENT.

Motion was made by Siever, second by Jones to approve use of Whitaker Park by the Mayes County Amateur Radio Club on Saturday, June 27th, 2020 through Sunday, June 28th, 2020 for their annual Field Day event. All voted yes.

4. PARK REPORT – SUPERINTENDENT FRANK POWELL:

a. Parks

Powell reported that the parks reopened today, and it did not take long for people to flock to all the areas. The Splash Pad will reopen tomorrow. There is a lot of work to do, but the ground is too wet to do it right now. Little league ball will start soon.

b. Cemetery

Powell reported that the cemetery is still very wet, after several inches of rain were received in the last week. He stated that most complaints come in after they begin picking up the Memorial Day flowers. The underwater issue will be discussed later in the meeting.

c. Open Up and Recover Safely

Powell asked if there is anything special the Board wants him to do. Mayor is trying to promote the Governor's guidelines, and we need to be able to trust others to follow these safety guidelines. Bowman has ordered some misters from Home Depot, which will make disinfection much easier for large areas.

The Recreation Center pool will be open for lap-swimming and classes, once City Council approves it at the June 2nd meeting.

5. GOLF COURSE REPORT – DIRECTOR DENNIS BOWMAN

Bowman reported that they have had a lot of rain at the course. They are working on maintenance. The new equipment is working out great and is helping get them caught up. He stated that the course stays busy any time the weather is good. The #8 green may open tomorrow. He is looking forward to receiving the new mister. He is working on some advertising and is organizing tournaments. The new pump system is being used and works great.

6. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE PARK BOARD'S RESPONSIBILITIES.

No action. Kannegiesser gave his ideas of how the Park Board should work and how the members should set the example. He stated that they should abide by the rules. Mayor stated that we all work for the citizens and represent them. He echoed Kannegiesser's thoughts on setting the bar for the citizens of Pryor Creek.

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE FLOODING ISSUE AT THE CEMETERY.

No action. Powell presented a plan that has been devised to help eliminate the build-up of water at the cemetery. He stated that this is the oldest section of the cemetery, so they have to be very careful with the old headstones. He stated that the best plan is to fix an underground drainage system, such as a French drain. When we receive heavy rains, the water is still going to puddle up, but it will recede faster.

Mr. Robert Taylor spoke and gave his family's history. He asked the City to do the right thing and not just put a band-aid on the issue.

Mayor stated that he hears Mr. Taylor and he looks at this as an opportunity going forward. He reported that they have spoken with the City Engineer, Cemetery staff and the Street Department, and all hands are on deck.

Kannegiesser apologized to Mr. Taylor and stated that he hated that it had to come to this to get the issue fixed.

8. ACTION ITEMS:

a. FEMA Claims

We are just waiting on FEMA for payment.

b. Others

None at this time.

9. UNFORESEEABLE BUSINESS. (Any matter not reasonably foreseen prior to posting the agenda.)

Graves commented on the issue at the cemetery, stating he was not aware of the problem until he saw it on the news. He recognized his need to become a more engaged Board member.

Jones asked if there is a timeframe on getting this issue fixed. Powell stated that the first step is for all the rain to dry up before they can begin. It will be fall or winter before they have time to work on this project. He simply stated that as soon as they get a change, they will start on it.

Richard asked to move back to Item 8.b, Others.

8. ACTION ITEMS:

b. Others

Richard asked if anything had been decided regarding Golf membership incentives after being closed. Bowman stated that he has only had one member complain, and he paid his membership and moved on. No more will be done on this topic.

10. PETITIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE.

There were no petitions.

11. ADJOURN.

Motion was made by Jones, second by Shelby to adjourn at 6:45 p.m. All voted yes.