

**Chesterton Park Department
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
September 7th, 2020**

Those in Attendance: Vice President Wendy Marciniak, Secretary Paul Shinn, Member Mark Dickinson, Superintendent Shane Griffin, Engineer Mark O'Dell, Liaison Jennifer Fisher, Town Attorney Connor Nolan

Wendy Marciniak called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the assemblage with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve August minutes was made by Paul Shinn. Seconded by Mark Dickinson. Motion passed; August minutes approved.

Comments from the Public

Lori Laster – Pickleball group that plays at the Chesterton Park. Spoke with Bruce last year about putting up pickleball nets and lines on the tennis courts at Chesterton Park. Stated that there has been an increase in players for pickleball. As per discussion. Stated that the Park dept did put up pickleball nets and striping for the courts in the last year, and are being used 4-5 days a week, and being used by many from surrounding communities. Stated that Chesterton has more courts than Valparaiso, Porter County is starting to put in courts. As per discussion. More communities are converting old courts into pickleball courts. Would like to see Chesterton commit to putting in dedicated pickleball courts. Lights would also be beneficial. Presented board with a sketch of courts. As per discussion. Wendy asked if they were part of an organized association. There is a facebook group dedicated to pickleball players. Paul questioned if there has been conflict with tennis players. Stated that a sign has been put up that Wen, Fri, Sat & Sun from 8am-10pm is pickleball play. As per discussion. Sizing and distancing between courts was discussed.

Kris Huber – Explained more about pickleball, and how beneficial it is for older people. As per discussion. Paul suggested that it could be beneficial if they form a club.

Frank Turner – Discussed more of pickleball and how many people play the sport. Paul suggested that they keep working with Shane. As per discussion. Mark asked Connor what the steps are. Suggested that it be taken under advisement. Further discussion on the sport, and where it can be played indoors.

Superintendent/Engineer Report

Not much mowing due to the dry weather. The old outfield net on the East softballs field at Dogwood was taken down. The houses along that side do not have to worry about softballs since only little league teams play on those fields. Splash pad will be closed on the 20th. The Ash tree at the Coffee Creek overlook has been taken down. The overlook will be taken down and rebuilt. Continuing to take care of evasive plants along the bike trail, along with regular trimming. The east Dogwood fields have been filled and relined. Working with the pickleball group. There are 3 surplus trucks that are going in for the

upcoming auction along with a mower. Connor stated that a motion needs to be made for the auction items, and a list will need to be submitted. Will have for next meeting. Wendy stated that Rebuilding Together is meeting Oct 3rd at Coffee Creek, and if there is a plan in place. Shane has not had a conversation with anyone with the group yet, but the overlook is the top priority. Mark asked if there was going to be an issue getting materials. Paul stated that an order should be placed soon.

Mark O'Dell stated that he and Shane are still working on the Master Plan.

Comments from the Board

Paul stated that it would be good to get another party in to close the splash pad, Shane stated that they are going to contact a company. Paul also inquired about a fence around the splash pad. Paul also asked about the weeds around Coffee Creek Park, Shane is taking care of them. Shane also stated that a new park truck was purchased.

Mark asked about the LEL property. Mark O'Dell stated that there is no agreement yet, and are waiting for the house on the property to be demoed, which has not come through the building dept as of yet. Mark inquired about the Coffee Creek proposal for phase one. Mark stated that it has not been submitted yet. An agreement needs to be made. As per discussion. Connor stated that if the Board wanted to authorize Mark O'Dell and Shane to work with legal in getting the proposal turned into a contract, not to exceed estimated cost.

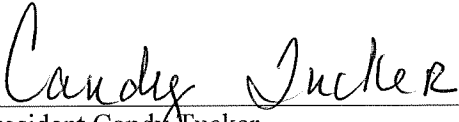
A motion to authorize Mark and Shane to work with legal to get a contract, not to exceed \$4000, was made by Paul Shinn. Seconded by Mark Dickinson.

Approval of Claims

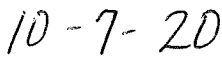
A motion to approve September claims was made by Mark Dickinson. Seconded by Paul Shinn. Motion passed. September claims approved.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Paul Shinn. Seconded by Mark Dickinson. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.



President Candy Tucker



Date