

HAMPDEN PARKS & RECREATION
Regular Meeting Minutes, August 24, 2021
TOWN HALL

Approved September 14, 2021

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm.

Members Present – Eric Jacobson, Carrie Joseph, Dan Slattery, Dave Turcotte, Brett Castellano
Guest – Steve Bennett, Craig Rivest, Jeff Johnson

Review Minutes – Dan made a motion to approve the August 10th meeting minutes as written, Dave 2nd. Passed 4-0 with one abstention as Eric was not at that meeting.

Public Comment – Steve Bennett attended the meeting to gather more information about why the board has received complaints about the lack of maintenance at the park and to ask questions about the maintenance position and why this has been a difficult position to fill. Steve decided to fill out an application for the maintenance position and will be stopping by the office at 8am tomorrow morning to discuss the job further with Dave and Kristen. It was brought up again how it would be ideal to collaborate with the DPW to create a new position. Craig Rivest also mentioned that there was possible grant money available for Parks and Recreation to get a camera for the park.

Craig discussed the upcoming “Trash for Treats” event which will be held at Memorial Park on October 23rd from 10-2. Another idea was to hold a “Trunk or Treat” event in the afternoon following the event in the morning. This will be discussed further. On September 13th the BOS will be discussing the logistics of Parks and Rec getting a truck from the DPW.

Review Bills & Payroll – All approved. There was one change made to which account would pay for the bill from K Sacco Electric to fix the Spray Park.

Liaisons – The board re-distributed liaison responsibilities:

Baseball Coordinator – Jeff Johnson

Baseball Liaison – Dave Turcotte

Basketball Coordinator – Dave Paradis

Basketball Liaison – Dan Slattery

Soccer Coordinator – Julie Wickman

Soccer Liaison – Eric Jacobson

Summer Program – Director

Summer Program Liaison – Carrie Joseph

Sign Board – Brett Castellano

Fall Soccer – There will be a coaches meeting on Thursday, August 26th at 6pm. The fields need to be lined before practices. Ask Herb if he would be able to mow the fields ASAP.

Fall Baseball – 9 kids are registered which does make it difficult to field a team.

RAH – Movie Night is scheduled for October 15th. Safety Night will be October 8th from 4-7pm. The board discussed potentially hosting a car show, but this has now been tabled until the spring.

Summer Program – The board is asking all seasonal employees to return their keys after the end of the season. Carrie will reach out to Joey about returning his keys. The board will also be looking into ways to update the summer program.

Memorial Park – The spray park will be closing on September 22nd. There was discussion about when Guarino’s would fix some pipes as they have already been asked to do so and at this time

they still haven't. The board decided to have this wait until the park is re-opened in the spring. Need to find a local company to maintain the park, however, most of the companies contacted in the area are unable to manage the system at Memorial Park as the water is continuously recycled.

Dave presented the quotes he received on UTV's for the park. Dan made a motion to approve the purchase of the Kubota tractor up to \$13,000. Brett 2nd, all in favor 5-0.

Veterans field looks great and is ready for softball practice. Complex Sports still has not responded to the boards request to look at Niccum field to make sure they would like to hold practices there as we currently do not have anyone to maintain the fields.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm. Next meeting is scheduled for September 14th.