

April 3, 2025

- I. **Call to order:** Dan Strong called to order at 5:02 pm
- II. **Present:** Dan Strong **Absent:**
Mary Devlin
Amy Wolfe
Clayton Bell
Susan Sparks
- III. **Declare a Quorum:** Dan Strong declared a Quorum with four members present. Amy Wolfe arrived shortly thereafter.
- IV. **Others Present** Jim Hunter, Parks Superintendent
 - i. Dennis Johnson, Parks Liaison to the Council
 - ii. Jackie Hayden
 - iii. Katie Swarm
- V. **Approval of Agenda:** Mary Devlin made a motion to approve Agenda, Clayton Bell Seconded, Agenda was approved.
- VI. **Introduction of New Member-** Susan Sparks Introduced by Dan Strong. Susan stated that she had just started serving on the Library Board as well, Dan Strong thanked Susan for her service.
- VII. **Election of Officers:** There was a short discussion regarding the election of members not present, this is when Amy Wolfe made her dramatic entrance. Mary Devlin nominated Amy Wolfe for President; Clayton Bell seconded. Amy Wolfe nominated Dan Strong for President; Mary Devlin seconded. Dan Strong asked for a motion to close nominations for President, Mary Devlin so moved, Clayton Bell seconded, therefore Dan Strong announced nominations for President closed. Dan Strong asked all those in favor of Amy Wolfe, Susan Sparks and Mary Devlin voted aye. Dan Strong asked all those in favor of Dan Strong, Clayton Bell and Amy Wolfe voted aye. Dan Strong announced two votes for Amy Wolfe and two votes for Dan Strong. Mary Devlin asked could there be Co-Presidents? Dan Strong then announced his vote for Amy Wolfe. Dan Strong then announced Amy Wolfe as President. Dan Strong asked for any nominations for Secretary, Clayton Bell asked what responsibilities the Secretary held? Dan Strong explained the Secretary took the minutes of the meetings making sure they are accurate and if the President was not present, would become acting President. With that said Mary Devlin nominated Clayton Bell, Susan Sparks seconded. Dan Strong asked for any other nominations of which there were none. With no other nominations Dan Strong asked for all those in favor of Clayton Bell say aye, Mary Devlin, Amy Wolfe, Susan Sparks and Dan Strong voted aye, Clayton Bell voted nae. Dan Strong then announced with four members in favor Clayton Bell was the Secretary. Dan Strong then asked Amy Wolfe to change seats with him. Amy Wolfe's tenure as President begins!

VIII. Approval of Prior Minutes:

With Amy Wolfe seated as new President, Amy asked if everyone's had the chance to read the minutes. Mary Devlin made a motion to approve Prior Minutes, Clayton Bell seconded. Amy Wolfe announced Prior Minutes approved w/o vote.

IX. Old Business

- a. Gas Tank Update and Pump Replacement Gas tank replacement, still working on financing for the Gas Tank replacement with the Council. Regarding the new pump, they will be out next Wednesday, weather permitting to install new pump and then we'll be ready to sell gas.
- b. Berry Comm Update has promised to be out in the next couple of weeks to install the fiber. This will allow for more cameras to be installed and therefore improving our security. James Hunter then announced he was most excited about offering free Wi-Fi to those primarily at the north end of the Park.
- c. Pickleball Lights Jim has meant with Gaylor Electric company and should have an answer in first half of April as to what they can do.
- d. Hamilton County Tourism Update- Sarah and I applied for grants with the Hamilton County Sports Authority and was awarded a \$1500 grant for improvements at the baseball fields. This will allow us to add more field mix to the fields and to do away with the artificial pitching mounds.
- e. Master Plan for Community Park and Red Bridge Park Dan and Jim meant with J2 Design. Dan and I plan to meet with a second company next week and hope to update the Board on these meetings at next month's meeting.
- f. New Vehicle Update- I received the new truck and with our trade in the town spent about \$17K. I ordered a new bed cover to protect the equipment I carry around from the weather.
- g. Concrete Project Update Project update - Jim wasn't certain if Sarah had updated the Board as to the bid that was approved. Dan Strong said that she had done this. Jim Hunter discussed with Dan Strong and some members, then expanded the project just a bit to allow for better handicap access. Low spots have developed and repaired. Hoping that when all is dry those low spots will be resolved. The total cost of the project so far has been about \$25K. Friends of The Park donated \$10K, and because of the savings we will send back \$5K to the Friends of the Park. For some of the cost of this project we hope to use monies from sponsors and a Fund. Hoping that at the next meeting Jim will be able to update board members on total cost.

X. New Business

- a. Farmers Market, 26 members signed up, 10 with full season contracts, produce vendors are lacking, we don't have a candle or soap vendor as well. Also hoping to get a sourdough/bread vendor. Waiting on some vendors from the Noblesville Market to make decisions as well. Susan asked what the hours would be, Katie explained it would be Saturday's May through September, 8:30- noon. We should be squared away with the Health Department. Dan Strong mentioned that Dennis Johnson had a question regarding commercial vendors. Would prefer that vendors be local and small, not planning on bringing on large commercial vendors. Katie explained that she did a local Golf Apparel vendor. Amy Wolfe asked if they had music or food vendor, Katie answered that no music vendor as of yet, that Dark Side would be selling breakfast items along with their beverages. Jim spoke about 5 year plan that a Farmers Market was one of the top picks from public

input. Mary Devlin asked if produce vendor could be added later in the season and the answer was yes. Dan Strong mentioned how fortunate Cicero is to have this board and how this will improve this aspect of living for our residents. A discussion was held regarding the Bourbon Bites program. Jackie Hayden spoke about the limits on how many people would be allowed over the 100 person limit. They would attempt to accommodate all those who come.

- b. 2026 Budget Jim Hunter has been working with Rhonda, probably won't get with the Council until May. Jim will send three line items to board members for discussion with board members. Next year will be a year to ask for a new mower. Jim will try to be frugal budget in the budget as it continues to get tighter each year. Parameters will be tight and board will be need to pass a budget to present to Council. Dan Strong mentioned that board can put anything they like into the budget but the Council would have to approve. That they may want to ask about money that could be available if a sizable Grant became available. Dennis Johnson spoke to the possibility of Matching Grants and how that would an exciting problem for the Council to deal with. That the Council is supportive of the Park Board and would everything possible to assist.

XI. **Miscellaneous**

Mary Devlin is the only person on the board that does not work and would more than happy to devote more time to the Park Board and its processes. Mary Devlin asked for direction on places to apply for grants. Jim Hunter tries to ask other Park Superintendents where they apply for grants. OTC got a grant. Jim Hunter mentioned that he'd like to get a PA System for the Parks Department. Looking for \$18K-25K in grants to improve safety to the Parks and Ball Diamonds as well. Dan Strong mentioned that the Master Plan with companies will open up opportunities for the Park Board. Jim Hunter believes the Master Plan offers a priority listing that gives direction for certain grants to go after. Jim Hunter mentioned that he has an open door policy.

Next Meeting May 1, 2025, at 5:00pm, Town Hall

XII. **Motion to Adjourn Mary Devlin made a motion to adjourn, Clayton Bell Seconded.**

XIII. **Signatures of Board**

AYE

NAY

_____ **Dan Strong** _____

_____ **Amy Wolfe** _____

_____ **Mary Devlin** _____

_____ **Clayton Bell** _____

_____ **Susan Sparks** _____

Attest: _____

**Jim Hunter, Parks Superintendent
Assistant**

Sarah Millis, Parks Administrative