

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Members' Term Attendance</u> (mtgs attended-mtgs absent)	<u>End of Current Term of Office</u>
MEMBERS PRESENT:	Clark, Chris	(15-10)	02/11/24
	Heim, Michael	(18-7)	02/03/24
	Lanham, Annette	(14-1)	02/03/25
	Luedtke, Patti	(12-0)	08/31/25
	Montegna, Eric	(3-0)	06/28/26
	Mooney, Scott	(2-1)	06/28/26
	Supple-Bish, Mary	(20-5)	02/03/24
MEMBERS ABSENT :	Nelson, Pam	(22-3)	02/03/24
	Nelson, Scott	(11-2)	07/27/25

STAFF PRESENT: Chuck Kempf, Director Parks, Recreation & Civic Facilities
 Jeff Atkins, Assistant Director Parks, Recreation & Civic Facilities

Call to Order.

Chairman Chris Clark called the meeting to order at 4:04pm.

ITEM #2 - Approval of minutes

August minutes approved, with the following correction: Page 3 change Scott Montegna to Scott Mooney.

ITEM #3 – Updates:

- a. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding for Civic Arena – City received around \$38 million with \$19 million this year and \$19 million next year. A citizens committee was formed to provide recommendations to council. The committee accepted applications for review. The only application that we were given the opportunity to provide a presentation was for the Civic Arena. We were given \$1 million, which will assist with the \$1 million park tax match funding. This will cover some immediate needs for the NCAA tournament: scoreboard, basketball goal and anchors, digital scorers table, and seating. Hillyard’s will sponsor resurfacing the flooring.
- b. Park Tax Update – Board was provided a schedule for funding with phases which cover the 10 years of the tax. This scheduled is based on bonding. The city has a \$10 million dollar cap each calendar year for bonds. Public Works has already used the cap for 2021. July 1, 2022, will hopefully get \$5 million and Public Works \$5 million. There is a 2-to-3-month bond issuance process processed by outside bonding council. Will have to have 85% of the funds from each bond utilized within 3 years. Tax begins January 1, 2022, and the city will receive the first funds by the middle of March. We should have \$2.5 million by July 1, 2022. Using Phases will not lock us in to a specific year, but an overlapping range of years throughout the 10 years which is a fluid timeline.

At the end of the ten-year park tax cycle, the hope is to complete the supplemental projects listed at the end of the project schedule. Supplementals can not begin until all other projects have been completed. We will work on having a listing of rolling stock & equipment ready for the next park board meeting. Will be working on bid specifications now since delivery can be 6 to 8 months. We

have been fortunate to work with Buchanan County this year to provide assistance with a batwing mower to periodically keep some areas mowed.

- c. River Bluff Trails Project Update –The contractor is begun working again. We are still working on land acquisition of 2 properties. Will start the Pedestrian Bridge over Highland in October. Working on ways to get restrooms. Something like portable restrooms, but more upgraded. The project will go on for around 2 more years. Shuttle service ordinance up on the next council meeting. Plan is for a passenger van with bike racks to take bikers to and from the trails. They will need to have online pass purchases. City will receive a % of all passes purchased. Plan on limit of 2 companies to provide the service.
- d. Native Planting Project Possibilities – Working with Missouri Department of Conservation on areas throughout the park system. Start with one at the Nature Center primarily for education purposes and the Golf Course to assist in the areas that are hard to mow and not utilized by golfers. The planting usually takes around 3 years to be fully established. MDC currently has a reimbursement program at 75% of the cost. We are trying to take advantage of the program. We are looking for more ideas on planting areas. Areas will probably not be around established neighborhoods with houses close to park property. Native planting areas will assist some areas that are hard to mow. An environment group (SEAC) would like to see more nature areas to give better environments for attracting butterflies, etc. The group currently is working on applying for a grant to help with the Ash tree issues. One focus is Felix Street, which has 14 Ash trees that should be removed.

ITEM #3 – Upcoming Events

- a. No Trunk or Treat this year – last year was a hit, but the location was an issue with cars backed up. Plan on a scavenger hunt in the parks instead.

ITEM #4 –Open Discussion

- a. STEAM Festival went very well. We had 4’x8’ signs laid out to represent the parkway system. Our department made metal brackets for the signs. We will be using year around, placing in various facilities.
- b. Scott Nelson – With large amount of funds rolling in will our department be able to handle this number of new projects. Concerned about us doubling our workload.
Chuck Kempf - We are trying to figure out project management. It could be internal Public Works engineer or an outside independent company. Our initial thought was to fill the open position in Public Works with a person dedicated to us. There is concern that it would be hard to find someone who could handle the multiple project management we have. Other concern is what would the cost be to us for internal or an outside firm. Current staff will have issues just getting rolling stock and would not be able to handle multiple projects at one time.
- c. Chuck Kempf – Will be presenting Krug Park project plans to the Landmark Commission as well as Missouri Theater. The Landmark Commission is a city appointed committee. Hopefully we will receive a lot of good feedback.
- d. Chris Clark – News Press article on Missouri Theater can we get further information.
Chuck Kempf – We have funding through the CIP program to install restrooms on the main level of the theater. The leak in the lower-level roof had a leak, which turned out to be a much bigger issue when the contractor started the project. We have to fix the lower-level roof before the restrooms can be installed. The cost of the repairs is \$169,000. The contract has been able to begin

demo, while waiting for roof repairs. The main Theater roof is in the Park Tax. We are trying to get that ready to bid out after the first of year.

e. Mary Supple-Bish – How is the Splash Pad at Hyde going? Vandalism?

Chuck Kempf – Seems to be a big hit. With the large crowds there have been some behavioral issues and some heavy usage on the equipment. We have had a couple of swimming employees who were available to work at the splash park. We have been adjusting operational hours since the sun has been setting earlier. Moved to 10am to 7pm through this weekend. Beginning Monday, the hours will be 10am to 6:30pm. We will continue to adjust as the days are shorter as well as the weather. For various reasons we need to have our employees to close restrooms before dark. We have learned some stuff that if we do another park we would do differently.

Annette Lanham - Vandalism?

Chuck Kempf – Some ruff usage on the equipment, but nothing substantial.

Mary Supple-Bish – What about parking?

Chuck Kempf – There will be an additional 40 spaces installed. There will be more parking than before the splash park was installed.

ITEM #5 –Public Comment

No public comments

ITEM #6 - Adjourn

A motion to adjourn meeting, seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:08 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, October 21, 2021, 4:00pm** at Parks, Recreation & Civic Facilities office, 1920 Grand Avenue.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Lori Frederick, Executive Administrative Assistant