



**Park and Recreation Commission
Town Hall, 126 Main St.
Ware, Massachusetts 01082-1386**

Minutes of the Park Commission Meeting

Date: April 3, 2023
Place: Town Hall
Present: Bill Imbier, John Piechota, Kim Swarts, Ryan Mulligan

Guests: See Attached

Special Meeting commenced at 6:00 pm.

Representatives from **AECOM** introduced themselves to the Park Commissioners, a representative from the Board of Health, the Building Department and the Conservation Agent of the Town of Ware. They explained what they had done in regard to surveying the Reed Pool property.

The good news was that there is not a lot of hazardous material which could be costly to remove. The current footprint of the existing pool can remain, but the pool has failed. Discussion topics consisted of issues around permitting, wet lands, aquatic plants in the area, river front, water conservation, shade trees, benches and pool filtering.

Attached are copies of handouts which include six pool design options, wetland information, and cost estimates. Various items on the cost estimate could be reduced, i.e. salvaging the existing filtration system.

There was a discussion regarding removal of trees, replacement and/or moving of fences.

There was also a discussion of using playground equipment from the existing area and maybe use the area for a spray park.

The design plans do not include the buildings, lights or cameras.

John Piechota would like to see other pools and spray parks in the area. **AECOM** will provide that information.

Bill Imbier proposed that the Park Commissioners meet again to discuss the various options, which would include the must haves and location of the spray park.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

REGULAR PARK COMMISSION MEETING COMMENCED at 7:25 pm

Minutes

IMBIER: Motion to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2023
Park Meeting Minutes.

MULLIGAN: Second
All were in favor.

Maintenance/User Fees

After a brief discussion, it was decided that since the various sports programs have already charged their participants, the user fees will not be reinstated until July 1, 2023.

IMBIER: Motion to reinstitute a \$10.00 user fee per individual participant except for
T-ball and minor camps or clinics. The fee will be charged commencing on July
1, 2023.

SWARTS: Second
All were in favor.

Playground Update

Bill Imbier spoke with Andrew Kimball from O'Brien. Bill would like to postpone installation of the playground until the cameras area installed. The playground equipment will be delivered in early May and will be stored in the Park Barn. A new date will be established when the equipment is delivered.

Pickleball

Bill reported that Pickleball has been a big success. New people are joining. There has been no damage to the Town Hall. Nets will be removed for voting. There is a link at the Town's website for scheduling pickleball times.

Pool Design

It was decided to hold a special Park Meeting to discuss the options for a new pool. The Board of Health and the Conservation Agent will be invited to attend the meeting which is scheduled for April 12 at 6:00 at the Town Hall.

Park Grants

Nothing has been started at Memorial Field. A grant of \$31,000 from Stanton will be used to update and improve the initial design of the Dog Park and will include shade trees and mulch on the bank and an overlapping fence. A letter will need to be written to Stanton to address the issues and to show that the "Friends of the Dog Park" are still involved. Other possible grants would be a new bathroom up near the Park Barn and pickleball court.

Updates from John Piechota

John Carroll on behalf of the Lion's Club will like to hold the annual fireworks display at Grenville Park.

IMBIER: Motion to approve the request of the Lion's Club to hold their fireworks display at the Bandstand and for the Park to supply additional Sani Cans on June 24 with a rain date of July 25.

SWARTS: Second
All were in favor

John reviewed two invoices from Marylou for approval

SWARTS: Motion to permit Ware Youth Basketball to pay KM Graphics for T-shirts not to exceed \$600.00

IMBIER: Second
All were in favor.

Wood chips for the playground will cost \$6300 to \$6400.

A quote from Swistak to remove 3 pine tree stumps will be \$1100. John will reach out for more quotes. The payment could come out of the Part Trust Account.

IMBIER: Motion to proceed with stump removal not to exceed \$1100 and to be taken From the Park Trust Account.

SWARTS: Second
All were in favor

The Finance Committee will create a new year-round 40 hour a week position for a Laborer to split the time between the Park Department and the Cemetery Department. The position will come with benefits in hope that it will attract more applicants. Bill will reach out to Pathfinder for a student to do summer work. There is some money available to use from July 1st.

The 1st Diamond can be opened up for use. Memorial Field is in bad shape although it was seeded in the fall and in the spring.

The back of the Park will be opened up as soon as John is finished with burning and clearing up brush.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Nancy Dunn
Park Secretary

Bill Imbier _____

Kim Swarts _____

Ryan Mulligan _____