

## **CITY OF NEW CASTLE PARK BOARD MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 1, 2021**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Patty Broyles, Dave Nantz and John Henderson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sandy Scott

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Greg York, Park Superintendent Mike Bergum and Mayor's Assistant Kendra Kennedy

Mayor York opened this meeting at 5:30pm.

Mayor York asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the former meeting (December 7, 2020). Patty made a motion to accept the minutes from the former meeting. Second by Dave. Motion carried (3-0)

Mayor York announced the board needed to hold election of officers for the 2021 year. John nominated that the officers remain the same, Patty as President and Dave as Vice President. Second by Patty. Motion carried (3-0)

### **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

The board presented the 2021 Capital Projects Budget Review. The project list provides a direction both fiscally and structurally for the department. Several items noted are maintenance issues that will address upkeep and safety. Patty made a motion to accept the 2021 Capital Projects Budget Review and move forward in implementing the plan. Second by Dave. Motion carried (3-0)

The board discussed the new playground equipment that will be placed in Baker Park. We were able to purchase equipment from a year end sale and saved \$15,000. This new equipment is possible with funding from the 2020 budget. The new equipment is slated to be placed behind Baker 1 Shelter. Dave made a motion to proceed with this equipment addition. John seconded. Motion carried (3-0)

Also, the renovation of the "old stage" is close to being completed. The stage shelter has been repurposed and will serve Baker Park as a performance area and rentable park shelter.

The Parks and Recreation Department is looking for individuals, groups, and clubs to help enhance the city parks this spring. "Project Picnic Table: is something for anyone and everyone. Volunteers will help design and paint picnic tables that will be placed back into shelters, parks, and open areas throughout the city. Anyone or group interested in participating in this project can contact Mike Bergum at 765-465-7278. Tables will be assigned to the first 15

individuals/groups that express interest. This project is made possible with a partnership with Sherwin Williams.

Corey Murphy from the EDC came before the board to discuss the Bond Proposal. The Parks and Recreation Department along with the City of New Castle can enter into a long term, strategic, and fiscally responsible capital investment plan for our parks and recreation system. The bond will embody the same principals as the Park Master Plan by prioritizing critical capital projects that impact the public's safety and well-being. The goal from this bond is to enhance our park and recreation opportunities. Corey provided several funding scenarios that could be pursued. Once the board agrees on an amount, it will need to go before the City Council for consideration. During the March Park Board meeting, a decision will be made and sent to the council for approval on 3/15. Patty made a motion to move forward with this bond proposal and for Corey and Mike to finalize details before presenting to the board and City Council. Dave seconded. Motion carried (3-0)

The Parks and Recreation Department is in the process of writing a Tree Plan that will outline today, tomorrow, and future of "Trees" in the City of New Castle. The first edit of the Tree Plan will include the items listed in the outline. The plan will forever be evolving.

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

None

#### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

See old/new business.

#### **CITIZEN CONCERNS**

None

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:20PM, NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 1, 2021.