

City of Maquoketa  
Parks Board Meeting Minutes  
January 10, 2024

Call to Order: 5:32 p.m., City Council Chambers

Roll Call: Board members: Chris Gockel and Carol Hammill

City: Jon Hopson (Maquoketa Public Works representative); City Council members:  
Kevin Kuhlman and Ginger Bennett

Guests: Brian Bennett

Lacking a quorum, it was decided that agenda items would be discussed, but no motions would be made or votes taken.

Old Business:

- Josh Boldt distributed a spreadsheet showing capital improvements, equipment, and grants for each city park. It covered expenses for 2022-23 and projected expenses through 2026-27.
- Jon said the tennis backboard for 5<sup>th</sup> Ward would add \$3,000 to the current year's budget. The rubberized surface inside the GaGa pit at 1<sup>st</sup> Ward will cost \$6,000 - \$7,000. The yellow fence guard for the large baseball field on Grove Street will cost about \$1,200.
- In the projected budget for 2024-25, Josh included \$100,000 for the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward parking lot.
- The Grove Street scoreboard was discussed. Chris Gockel said they're expensive. He will contact Dyersville to see if they might have a used scoreboard for sale.
- The group talked about adding a sidewalk and fencing for Grove Street. The projected plan included \$20,000 for this purpose.
- Roof replacement for two park shelters was discussed. Jon said the roofs on the south shelter at 5<sup>th</sup> Ward and the shelter at 1<sup>st</sup> Ward need replacement. Jon reported it will cost \$19,000 per shelter to rehab with a metal roof. Total replacement would cost \$39,000 per shelter.
- Ginger and Brian Bennett asked about plans for Horseshoe Pond. They discussed hydro-raking. It costs \$10,000 for 2 acres. The raking pulls sediment and sludge. Ginger and Brian stated that raking is better than dredging. Josh said the pond is treated, so it shouldn't have a weed issue. The local Izaak Walton League plans to spend about \$1,800 to stock the pond. Ginger and Brian said they would check pond depths as soon as the pond freezes.

Open Items:

- The Spring Clean-up date will be decided in February.
- A brief discussion centered around opening the concession stands at the Grove and Burlingame sites for 6 weeks from May-June. They would be open on Mondays from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Chris suggested selling candy, popcorn, pretzels, nachos, popsicles, and water.

- Josh said that an anonymous donor has offered a \$20,000 donation for a pickleball court. To build 2 outdoor courts it would cost approximately \$50,000 to \$60,000. Possible sites were mentioned.
- The Maquoketa Community School District has asked about buying part of 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward Park to make room for an addition to Briggs Elementary. If the deal goes through, money from the sale would go into our parks account.
- Carol shared that Church of Christ had made a \$200 donation to be used for park improvements. We are grateful for their donation. Carol will send a card to thank them for their generosity.
- Ron's resignation from the park board was mentioned. A replacement will be discussed at the next meeting on February 14, 2024.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Hammill  
Secretary pro tem