

1 **Park and Receptions Committee**
2 **City of Tomahawk, City Council Chambers**
3 **23 N 2nd St, Tomahawk, WI 54487**
4 **May 9, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.**
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6 **Call to Order:** Jeff Kahle called the Park and Receptions Committee to order at 5:00 p.m.
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8 **Roll Call:** Committee members present were Sue Thompson, Jeffrey Kahle, Dan Schuller, Steve Bartz,
9 and Mikey Loka. Absent was Tim Albert and Chad Gauerke.

10 Staff members present were Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Miranda Freeman and Park Leadsperson Steve
11 Borem.

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14 **Public comments:** There were no public comments.
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16 **Other Business**

17 1. Proposed Memorial Bench Honoring Brian “Boog” Morren

18 MICKEY LOKA stated that the City does not have funding for the bench, if the family no longer funds
19 the repairs, maintenance, or replacement of the bench there will no longer be a bench.
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21 SCHULLER asked how heavy the bench was. Steve Borem stated that the bench is made from
22 concrete and the pedestal 200 pounds and the bench itself is another couple hundred pounds.
23 SCHULLER stated that if the bench is not heavy enough or can be moved by two people they tend to
24 end up in the water.
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26 BARTZ asked if it was possible to anchor the bench so that the pedestal and bench are one piece.
27 He stated that it is planned to be in a good spot and a great memorial to Brian, he would hate to see
28 it vandalized.
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30 MICKEY LOKA MOVED to approve the bench and BARTZ seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.
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32 BOREM will follow up with the family on the placement and status.
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34 2. Washington Square Park Improvements – Luke Geiger, MSA Professional Services, stated that he
35 wanted to make sure we are on the same page as the design is wrapping up. He stated that the soil
36 boring contract needs to be completed (email sent to Clerk Bartz) to move forward. He stated that
37 we can then move into the construction and bidding.
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39 Kay Kissinger-Wolf updated the Committee on funding and the status of grants applied for.
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41 SCHULLER stated that we are still waiting, and we cannot purchase or sign any construction
42 contracts until after we receive the award letter from the National Park Service. Geiger stated that
43 the Department of Natural Resources sent an email about the Stewardship Grant (State) award,
44 Geiger stated he will follow up with the Clerk on these items and will go forward with
45 design/construction documents.
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1 The Committee reviewed the plan for the park.

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3 Kissing-Wolf stated that the sidewalk on the south end of the block and the sidewalk by the
4 Tomahawk Boats display should be removed. She stated that they are in bad shape and suggested
5 removing them and replacing them with grass. Geiger stated that it would be easy to remove the
6 sidewalk. KAHLE stated that it was something that the city would take care of the sidewalk removal.

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8 Geiger stated that it may make sense to have Ruekert & Mielke to do the storm water work at 5th St
9 and Lincoln Ave as part of their project this summer. Geiger stated that he has reached out to
10 Ruekert & Mielke but has not seen the plans yet. He stated that some of the park work may impact
11 what is being done with that project.

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13 BARTZ MOVED to accept the design and MICKEY LOKA seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.

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15 Geiger stated that he will set up a meeting with City staff, Raine Gardner, Ruekert & Mielke to
16 discuss the “whole plan” and impacts on both projects.

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18 Geiger asked if the funding received was for the estimated \$2.1 million, Kissing-Wolf confirmed and
19 stated that there is additional funding and donations they are still working on.

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21 Geiger asked about expansion of parking on the northeast corner of the park, SCHULLER stated that
22 it was brought up but there was no action. He stated that we should leave as much green space as
23 possible, it can be changed later if it is needed.

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25 Discussion continued design and the splash pad elements, fencing, etc.

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27 3. Bradley Park – Follow Up on Storm Damages and Park Restoration

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29 SCHULLER stated that he frequently walks in Bradley Park, and he noticed that after cutting the
30 trees, there is what appears to be Black Lotus growing close to the road. He stated that to get rid of
31 it you will need to use an herbicide. He stated that is also by the boat landing.

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33 SCHULLER also asked if we could pull down the hanging limbs along the trails. He stated that he has
34 also seen poison ivy in the park.

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36 SCHULLER stated that the kayak rack is placed where people used to park. He suggested placing the
37 picnic table past the rack so there is more parking.

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39 BOREM stated that he could clean out the brush and move the table to open the area up. SCHULLER
40 stated that he has marked some hazardous trees that need to be taken down. He stated that from
41 an aesthetic standpoint it would make it appealing. He stated that Jane and himself walk every day
42 and it is amazing how heavily used the park is.

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44 4. Tree Committee – Emerald Ash Borer –

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46 BOREM stated that ROSENMEIER was going to work with Foley’s on marking the Ash Trees. He
47 stated that most of them are street trees.

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Leadsperson Report – BOREM reported that SARA Park Campground is open, and the runway is cleaned of snow and debris and that all the park bathrooms are open. He stated that the park staff are working seven days a week now.

BOREM asked if the two drinking fountains should be turned back on. MICKEY LOKA stated that people can determine for themselves if they want to use them or not, he stated that if we leave them off, we should just remove them.

BOREM stated that the Bradley Park Boat Landing project is getting started. He stated that the parking and landing approach will be paved, and solar street lighting will be added.

Discussion regarding the boat landing slab at Bradley Park. BOREM stated that the launch pad is one huge piece of concrete, and they are butted up to each other. He stated that he will add some pea gravel to fill in where the approach meets the slab.

BOREM reported that on May 24th, the High School is doing their workday. He stated that there will be 20 high schoolers working in Bradley Park to fill in divots and holes and to plant 12 additional trees.

Next meeting: The next regular meeting of the park and Recreations Committee is scheduled for June 13, 2023, at City Hall, Council Chambers at 5:00 p.m.

Adjourn: BARTZ MOVED to adjourn the meeting of Park and Recreations Committee and MICKEY LOKA seconded. The VOTE was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

Approved: June 13, 2023

Clerk/Treasurer Amanda L. Bartz, CMC WCMC