

Tri-Township Park Board Meeting
Park Board House
January 14, 2004

Approved
2/11/04
Phil

Meeting called to order at 7:00 by Phil

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call: Phil Loethen, Randy Wiesemeyer, Norm Beck, Doug Brendel, and Terry Ball

Absent: Kevin Woodring and Todd Moore

Phil said that he had heard from Todd and he would not be making this meeting.

Also in attendance: Bookkeeper Dave Roady, Tim Greenfield, Greg Hunt, Mae Grapperhaus, Kevin Delaney, Mary Anne Barkley, and Laura Wise

Additions to the agenda –

Motion: Put Riverbend Football discussion under Athletics. Randy/Doug 5-0 Ayes

Approval of Minutes -

Motion: Approve minutes from December 17th, 2003 meeting. Doug/Randy 4-0-1 Ayes Norm abstained

Citizens on the Agenda –

TBSL, TSC, Troy Titans – Hold discussion until Financial

Thank-You notes –

None.

Correspondence –

We received Madison County statement of economic interest. Phil said each commissioner would need to fill out a form and mail them in.

We received a thank you card from Tom Milkert.

We received a HR change order for the reduction in the dirt work cost.

Kevin arrives 7:10

Treasurer's Report -

Dave gave the Treasurer report. There is \$602,802 in the bank. **ATTACHED**

Dave said that we had received \$214,500 from OSLAD and this was very significant.

Motion: Accept Treasurers report. Doug/Norm 6-0 Ayes

Bills were reviewed. **ATTACHED**

Motion: Pay all bills totaling \$27,159.90 Kevin/Doug 6-0 Ayes

Park Superintendent Report – Tim **ATTACHED**

Tim said that he has found a way to use the existing TV antenna for the Wiesemeyer Center sun room and that he would not need to purchase one as already planned.

Motion: Cancel purchase of TV antenna. Randy/Doug 6-0 Ayes

Tim said that he would fix the old sound system in the Wiesemeyer and have it working in the coming month.

Tim said that there had been a water line leak at the Wiesemeyer Center that he was unable to fix and that Neal's Plumbing was called and the leak was repaired free of charge.

Tim suggested a Thank-You be sent to Neal's Plumbing. Phil wrote a thank you card, and the commissioners signed it.

Tim requested permission to attend the Southern Illinois Ground Maintenance School on February 24 and 25 for a cost of \$65.

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Motion: Pay up to \$65 for Tim to attend the Southern Illinois Ground Maintenance School on February 24 and 25. Terry/Randy 6-0 Ayes

Tim said that we would need to exchange the Scag lawnmowers in February at a cost of \$6,000. Tim asked the Board to consider trading in the van and purchasing a pickup truck for park use. With the addition of the Meadow Drive property, we will need a pickup to transport the mowers. Tim said that the Federal and State compliance posters were very aged and he would like to replace.

Motion: Spend up to \$90 for updated Federal and State compliance posters. Randy/Doug 6-0 Ayes

Motion: Accept Park Superintendent report. Norm/Terry 6-0 Ayes 4-0 Ayes

Friends of the Park – Mary Ann Barkley

Mary Anne Barkley said that fundraising was slowing down over the Christmas season but that the bandstand effort stood at \$16,211.66 and this did not count the \$1,804.77 in the park FOP bandstand account. Mary Anne said they would like to bring a proposal to the February meeting for picking a structure and a location to place it. She also reported that the FOP is now meeting at the truck stop.

Phil asked Doug and Randy to work with the FOP on the bandstand location.

TBSL Report – Greg Hunt

Greg said that signups have started and that we are running ahead of pace from last year. 54 kids were signed up the first day. Greg is now the President of the TBSL and we are in the process of selecting a new Vice President.

Phil said that the Tee Ball fields would be ready for play this spring on the new 32 acres. This will allow Tee Ball to be played adjacent to the new playground and the new restroom facilities.

Greg complimented the board on the construction and remodeling of the TBSL building.

TSC Report –

No one from TSC attended.

Financial – Phil

No action on the Dell computer, the baby changing station, the park commissioner plaque for the park office, and mailing the letter to the seniors.

Meadow Drive – Phil said the City agreed to the sale of the property for \$1 to the park several weeks ago and we are waiting on the City attorney to forward the paperwork.

Phil again mentioned that we had received a reimbursement from OSLAD for \$214,000. Phil presented the project status report that he had sent to the DNR and a financial analysis showing what was left on the OSLAD grant (**ATTACHED**). There are \$58,000 of OSLAD grant money left to spend. The cost of the list of list of projects remaining greatly exceeds that value so we should have no problems spending the remaining grant dollars.

Layout of 32 acres –

Phil said that Tim had been continuing to work on this project. Tim presented a drawing showing a few proposals for changes.

Phil said to first address the basketball court. Tim had presented an option for a circular court that would provide three goals. Phil said that according to his calculations this would only require two more yards of concrete as compared to a typical half court configuration. The location presented to the commissioners was just to the north of the parking lot. Phil said he had a bid from Mike DaCruz for building the court for \$4,500, not including materials.

Motion: Build circular basketball court at location shown in drawing. Spend up to \$9,000 for labor, concrete, poles, and baskets. Norm/Randy 6-0 Ayes

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Field Layout –

Phil explained the distances on fields 3, 4, and 5, from the foul line to the out of play line, and from the out of play line to the roads. Phil also explained that all of the backstops we were going to consider had 4' overhangs that would help prevent foul balls from leaving the field of play. Phil's concern was that the fields as presented were too far apart, and the area to the west would not be large enough for additional field development.

Greg Hunt said that the field would need at least 225 ft. Greg asked if there were any plans to light this or any of the new fields.

Phil said we had an obligation to light two fields and we have done that. There are no other current plans.

Tim said that he had a concern that home plate on the new field faces Citgo and it may be distracting to batters having the movement of the traffic and the intersection as a backdrop.

Phil pointed out that trees are planted all along the perimeter and someday, they should provide an adequate background.

Greg asked if there were any plans to light a girl's softball field.

Terry said that he had long been a proponent of lighting a girl's softball field because he thought it was the fair thing to do. However, after working with the scheduler of the TBSL, it had become apparent that the girl's softball diamonds had open time on them and lighting was simply not justified. The only rationale for lighting one of these fields would be to play under the lights instead of the daylight. From a cost standpoint, this did not make any sense.

Phil said that when the dirt work was done a conduit from the Lee Leonard building was run to the girls softball field for future lighting.

Motion: Accept baseball field layout as shown with the exception of the big diamond being moved to allow for a 225 ft outfield. Terry/Norm 6-0 Ayes

Phil said that he had a quote (\$9,656.16) from Anthony fencing in Greenville (**ATTACHED**) to install five backstops. This included material (excluding concrete) and labor.

Motion: Spend up to \$9,656.16 to purchase and install all backstops. Norm/Randy 6-0 Ayes

Phil said that we needed to purchase benches for the new diamonds, and he had a quote from Collegiate Pacific.

Randy asked if this would be pads or piers.

Mike DaCruz said that it would be piers.

Motion: Spend up to \$2,200 to purchase ten 15 ft benches for the new fields. Randy/Terry 6-0 Ayes

Soccer/Football field layouts –

Randy asked why no one from the TSC was here to review the layout of fields.

Phil said that he had TBSL, TSC, the Titans and anyone that wanted to put in their two cents.

Mike Dacruz spoke for the Titans and their wishes to utilize a planned soccer field as a football field designated for the Titans. He presented a proposal (**ATTACHED**) that proposed the Titans spending between \$60,000 and \$100,000 on labor and materials in return for a designated playing field being made available to the Titans on a 20-year lease. The expenditures would include a storage building, electric to the building, lights, goal posts, two sets of bleachers, scoreboards, player benches, dirt work, P.A. system, and a concession stand. Mike said that the Titans were spending \$3,000 a year to play at the middle school. They were looking at donating a comparable sum, over 20 years, to the park in return for the designated field.

Terry said that he was very excited about this plan and asked what the legal limit was for lease length.

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Phil*

Phil said that the limit was 20 years.

Terry said that was regrettable because he was hopeful to set a lease limit of 30 or even 50 years in return for a donation of this size.

Phil asked if any of the commissioners had any heartburn with this proposal.

Randy said that he was for it.

Terry said that he wanted to do this.

Phil said that he would talk to Dick Cain and write an ordinance for a 20 years lease agreement with the Titans and bring to the next park board meeting.

New playground –

Phil said that he wanted to use the Madison County Park grant to purchase the playground on the new 32 acres. Phil has asked Madison County for the full population of the district – 13,500 people. The grant is worth \$2 per person. This grant will be awarded on March 30th. Phil said that, in his opinion, we should install a swing set in this new playground. He would like to bid out for four sets of swings and as much modular playground for \$25,000.

Randy said this is the only playground planned for the 32 acres and we should go as big as possible because we wont be adding to it later.

Norm said that he agreed.

Phil said the last piece of playground equipment was \$27,000 and when we finished the entire project cost about \$33,000, due to mulch, rock, and drainage tile. The soccer playground was \$17,000. If we bid out a \$25,000 worth of equipment (swings and playground), we will probably end up spending around \$30,000. This should build us a nice playground.

Phil asked if anyone would help with the playground bidding.

Norm said that he would take this on. Phil gave Norm the grant information.

Recycle Grant –

Phil said that he had written the grant and was hopeful to be receiving \$5,000 worth of benches. The next county commissioner meeting the grant should be approved.

New Water fountains –

There was much discussion on where to locate five new water fountains on the 32 acres. A final plan was reached. Norm said that we needed to run water lines so we can water the new baseball fields.

Phil said that he believed watering the baseball fields was unwise. Phil said that last summer Greg Hunt spent several hours watering diamond 4, and the diamonds were dusty by game time. The cost of using thousands of gallons of chlorinated drinking water to water down little league baseball fields was wasteful. It would be a different matter if we used well water, or lake water. In addition, we are now also paying a sewer bill on all water consumed in the park.

Phil said that Illinois Power has begun billing us for things that they have historically donated to the park. It will cost \$5,126.78 to get electrical service into the 32 acres.

Motion: Spend \$5,126.78 for electrical service to the 32 acres. Norm/Terry 6-0 Ayes

Phil said that we would need pad and conduit for GL Warren to complete the new pavilion.

Motion: Spend up to \$1,000 for pad and conduit and connections to building for GL Warren. Randy/Doug 6-0 Ayes

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Phil

Light Poles –

Phil gave the two options for light poles and the costs of each for the 32 acres. (**ATTACHED**) Basically, the fancy poles are going to cost \$2,400 a year and the wooden poles will cost \$1,300 a year.

Norm said that he would like to get the fancy poles. He said that a lot of work went into the 32 acres and these would make it look nice.

Randy asked why this was so expensive.

Phil said that we are basically renting the poles and equipment. There is no electric charge for these lights. If a pole is damaged, or a light burns out, it is Illinois Power's responsibility. The other option is for the park to hire an electrical contractor and for the park to buy it's own poles. The electric would be run off our meter in the new pavilion, and if a pole is damaged it is our responsibility. If a light burns out we have to replace it. Phil said he talked to Bud at the city and the city does not own the poles. They rent. Phil said he doesn't think the park should be maintaining our own lights.

Motion: Go with the Class B Fancy poles. Norm/Kevin 5-1 Ayes Phil was the no vote

Phil asked for an adjustment to the costs being incurred on Memorial benches.

Motion: Change the price of the Memorial Benches to \$350 plus \$2 per letter. Randy/Doug 6-0 Ayes

Phil asked the board to set a rent fee for the new pavilion on the 32 acres.

Motion: Add pavilion #14 and usage fees will be the same as the #1 pavilion Randy/Terry 6-0 Ayes

Phil said that the Madison County Probation Department has notified us that they have the juvenile who was responsible for our recent vandalism.

Terry said that it was disappointing that the local police had never even notified us that the vandal had been apprehended.

Athletics – Norm

Norm asked that the board approve the newest listing of the TSC and TBSL boards.

Motion: Approve TBSL and TSC boards as listed with Greg Hunt being President of the TBSL and the Vice President position being open. Norm/Randy 6-0 Ayes

Norm said that Riverbend has asked permission to play five games in the spring season. This would be a new team that has not paid a fee. Norm will call and determine what their needs are.

Terry said that with TBSL signups starting he wanted to discuss background checks with the board. He said that the TBSL spent over \$1,000 doing background checks last year and that he was hoping that we wouldn't have to do them every year and this was quite expensive to a break even non-profit organization.

Phil said that all our official policy said was that the coaches had to have a background check in order to be recognized and given a shirt.

Kevin said that he felt we needed a written policy.

Terry said that we do background checks on all new employees and never follow back up and that the schools do back ground checks on new teachers being hired and then never do another one. He suggested that once checked that would be good enough unless we learned of charges being brought against them.

Kevin said that the background check we were doing was not good enough and that we needed to do a fingerprint check.

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Phil said that there was no legal requirement to do background checks and that the fingerprint check was at least \$15, which is double the cost and not recognized as a valid check by the State Police.

Terry said that he was trying to reduce his costs and was unwilling to double them.

Kevin said that if we don't have a policy and stop someone from coaching they will sue the park and win.

Phil said that he would ask park attorney Dick Cain for an opinion on how often was necessary.

Insurance - Kevin

Kevin said he would try to make the workman comp meeting on Jan 19th, but wasn't sure if he could make it since he might have to work.

Dave Roady said he would be at the meeting and Kevin would not have to come.

Grounds - Todd (absent)

No report.

Special Events - Doug

Motion: Approve senior's only use of the sunroom from Jan 12th to Feb 16th for a quilting project
Doug/Randy 6-0 Ayes

Motion: Approve free use of the Wiesemeyer Center; with use of the sunroom wedding reception Saturday
July 10th Doug/Randy 6-0 Ayes

Motion: Approve free use of the Wiesemeyer Center; with use of the sunroom wedding reception Saturday
November 27th Doug/Randy 6-0 Ayes

Motion: approve summer concert series - 10 weeks - June to August. Doug/Terry 6-0 Ayes

Personnel & Safety - Terry

Terry said that he had recommendations and proposals for all employees for next year relative to possible increases and or changes in salary structure to discuss in executive session.

Beautification - Randy

Randy asked Tim in he was ready for spring weed and feed and if he had a sprayer.

Tim said yes.

Randy suggested that for future road repair we not use white rock.

Randy said that we should revisit our plans for a skate park, review and update the 5-year plan, and work on the bandstand project.

Phil said that he agreed but that the OSLAD project had to be the number one priority until completed.

Kevin said that we needed to be looking at working on the lake. He said that after a recent rain the lake was full again. This was after we had the drain cleaned out.

Phil told the commissioners that after a big rain some debris and a large dead carp had clogged the drainpipe. Roger removed it and the problem was solved.

Kevin said the lake needs to be dredged and the bank repaired. He added t here are lake grants out there that we should be going after them.

Phil said that he was working on multiple grants and did not have the time for that right now and asked Kevin if he would look into the lake grants.

Handwritten signature and date: 7/11/94 Phil J

Kevin said that he did not do grants; he was in charge of insurance.

Terry asked Kevin why he is so quick to point out problems and not be willing to offer any help or solutions. Terry said that we have repeatedly discussed the lake issue at past meetings and are well aware of the need. Terry said that if Kevin came to more meetings he would be aware we are working on this.

Kevin said that he has only missed a couple of meetings.

Terry said that he is the secretary and takes notes and attendance and that since his election, Kevin has made five of the thirteen meetings that have been held.

Phil said he would appreciate any help Kevin could give on researching lake grants.

9:50 Motion to adjourn to executive session. Terry/Randy 6-0 Ayes

10:20 Return from executive session.

Motion: Approve pay changes effective April 1st as follows:

Tim - 2.5% raise in salary (\$800 per year). 1.6% lump sum bonus (\$500)

Roger - 3.03% raise in hourly rate (\$.25 per hour to \$.50). 1.75% lump sum bonus (\$300)

Tom - 6.66% raise in hourly rate (\$.50 per hour to \$.80).

In addition, create new position - Part time grounds for grass cutting and weed eating only and pay at a rate of \$6.00 per hour. Terry/Randy 5-1 Ayes Kevin was the no vote.

Motion to adjourn meeting. Randy/Doug 6-0 Ayes

Respectfully submitted by

Terry Ball, Secretary