

MINUTES
City of Norwich, Parks Commission
January 22, 2025

Present: Chairperson C. Sprague, Comm. B. McCracken, Comm. OJ Levesque, Comm T. French, Comm. K. Thompson

Absent: Comm. S. Collins, Comm. K. Thompson

Also Present: A. Testani, E. McCracken

Correspondence: None

Old Business:

1. Approval of October's minutes – Comm. French made a motion to accept October's meeting minutes, seconded by Comm McCracken. Approved by all.
2. Kurt Beyer
 - a. Landscaping – Comm. Levesque stated that if not approved by BOCES this spring, he would be willing to do the work himself. The Parks department would need to purchase whatever we decide to plant.
 - b. Site Lighting Repairs – Superintendent Pepe provided an update on the lighting. Westcott Electric is in the process of replacing all the site lighting. They will be replacing the broken utility pole. They will be replacing all existing light heads and fixtures with new LED lights. The system will be on a timer with a dawn to dusk setting. Westcott is installing an additional light between the pavilion and the pool.
 - c. Cameras – Deputy Chief Burlison was looking for additional quotes.
 - d. Bridge – Superintendent Pepe is reviewing the engineer's recommendation. No as-built drawings have been located.
3. Weiler Park
 - a. Tree removal – No update.
 - b. Sharps Container – No update.

Chairman's Report: Chairperson Sprague asked about the RERC initiative. Jones Lang LaSalle Americas Inc. was awarded the contract. One introductory meeting was held.

The Park's Master Plan has been awarded to Labella Associates. Again, an introductory meeting was held. Next steps were for Dana Carson, a member of Labella's team, to do a walk-through of the parks.

New Business:

1. A. Testani presented two of Governor Hochul's grant funding in the 2025 budget. A. Testani stated he was going to pursue the NY PLAYS grant. This is a new competitive grant that provides funding for playground development and maintenance projects. A. Testani also stated the Master Plan team was going to help prepare an application for the NY SWIMS. Matching funds would be an issue with this grant.

Commissioner's Reports: B. McCracken reported trees along the fence at Kurt Beyer pool need to be trimmed back.

Budget: A. Testani presented the 2024 budget compared to actual expenditures. After taking account transfers the budget came in under plan by \$1,675. Outside of personal services, the largest expenditure for the year was the painting of the pickleball courts. This was funded through a grant. The 2025 budget will be presented at the February meeting.

Adjournment: Comm. French made a motion to adjourn, second by Comm. Levesque. The meeting adjourned at 8:40.

Next meeting: February 26th at 7:00 PM