

MINUTES
City of Norwich, Parks Commission
October 28, 2025

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

Absent: Comm. S. Lambert, Comm. OJ Levesque, Comm. M. Kirsch, Alderwoman N. Allaire

Also Present: A. Testani, Dan Thompson, Sal Testani, Tyler Oliver, Eric Scrivener

Correspondence: None

Comm. McCracken made a motion to approve September's meeting minutes, second by Comm. Thompson. Approved by all.

Old Business:

South Broad Street Park - Chairperson Sprague stated South Broad St Park will open to the public on November 14th. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony on November 13th.

Previously mentioned need repairs - A. Testani provided an update on the repairs mentioned from last month's meeting. The DPW cleared the brush from fence along the north edge of Kurt Beyer Park. DPW has also removed the debris along the fence at Weiler Park. DPW will straighten the fence now that they have removed the debris from it. The lock on the lady's bathroom at Weiler Park was not broken. A pad lock is used on the outside of the door to lock the restrooms. DPW cleans the bathrooms at Weiler every morning.

No update on the Park's Master Plan.

Kurt Byer Pool - Labella has provided an estimate for the assessment of Kurt Beyer pool. The assessment would cost the city \$5,000. It has been included in the 2026 budget. If passed, the assessment will take place in the spring.

New Business:

Commerce Chenango Weiler Park Study - Sal Testani from Commerce Chenango presented to the commission an idea to turn Weiler Park into a central hub for the city and county. Working with JLL Consultants on a visitor economy study, it was made clear one of the Chenango County's greatest assets was our natural resources, particularly the Chenango River. With Weiler Park and the city owned property situated along the river and railroad tracks, it is believed this area could be developed into a hub stretching out to other areas of the county, drawing in tourism. Commerce Chenango along with Chenango County would fund a study as to what type of attraction or development would best fit that area. Mr. Testani asked the commission for their support in this study.

Comm. McCracken made a motion to support the city's partnership with Commerce Chenango to move ahead with the study by JLL for improvements or expansion at Weiler Park. Comm. French seconded the motion. Approved by all.

Weiler Park Bathrooms – The DPW will be closing the bathrooms for the winter as of Monday, November 3rd.

Portable Ice Rink – A. Testani mentioned he is looking to move the portable ice rink from East Main St Park to another in the city. Based on the size, he felt Kurt Beyer Park would be the best location. The commission suggested two sites: the corner of Mechanic and North Board parking area and lot owned by NBT Bank at the corner of Eaton Ave and South Board St.

Chairman's Report: Chairperson Sprague asked the status of the poison ivy and fountain in Gordon Park.

Commissioner's Reports: Commission French asked about graffiti at Bruchhausen Park. A. Testani said the graffiti was cleaned up the day it was found.

Budget: September YTD budget was present.

Next meeting: Our next meeting was to fall on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. This conflicted with many of the commission's members. The commission will not meet in November. To avoid a similar conflict with Christmas, the commission will meet December 18th. December 18th at 7:00 PM in the city offices.

Adjournment: Comm. McCracken made a motion to adjourn at 8:25, seconded by Comm. Thompson, approved by all.