

**MINUTES  
CITY OF PLAINWELL  
PARKS & TREES COMMISSION  
January 16, 2020**

1. Matthew Bradley called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM.
2. Roll Call: Present: Matthew Bradley, Marsha Keeler, Bunny LaDuke, Tom Belco, Gina Berry Absent: Todd Overhuel and Bob Nieuwenhuis. Also attending: City Manager Erik Wilson (during the staff comments portion of the meeting).

3. Approval of Minutes:

***Tom Belco moved to accept and place on file the minutes of November 14, 2019. Gina Berry supported the motion. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.***

4. Parks:  
Bob was absent.

Sherwood Park Maintenance Report - Marsha Keeler

Marsha reported that the park looks good. She would like to see signs on the doors for the new bathrooms. One restroom sign and the other storage or maintenance room. Cheryl will let Bob know so we can get some signs ordered. She also inquired about some trees that were being taken out by the county over by the Dollar General in the Township. No one had heard anything about the trees.

Pell Park Maintenance Report - Todd Overhuel, Gina Berry

Sandy was in charge of this park but she is not on the board anymore so Gina will take this over.

Hicks Park Maintenance Report - Bunny LaDuke

Bunny reported that she had nothing to report.

Cook Park Maintenance Report – Tom Belco

Tom reported that the park was good and the dogs were happy. He also inquired about the road in the park but said he would contact Bob soon to discuss it with him.

Kenyon Park Maintenance Report – Matthew Bradley

Matthew reported that the park looks good except he noticed an electrical box near the pavilion is damaged and looks like someone hit it. Cheryl will report it to Bob so we can get it taken care of.

Darrow Park Maintenance Report – Gina Berry

Sandy was on this park too and Gina will be taking it over.

Riverwalk, Band Shell & CBD Maintenance Report

Gina reported that she noticed that the Riverwalk was icy but noted that there are barricades up in different parts of it so people are aware of it.

5. New Business

A. Bushes in Hicks Park were taken out and we need suggestions on what to put in their place:

There was some discussion on this. Bunny, Marsha and Gina suggested Box Wood bushes with Ivy and Myrtle to fill in.

B. What ground covering should we use under the playground equipment at Sherwood Park:

The board liked both suggestions that the DPW had made pea stone or mulch. They thought we should do whatever the DPW thought would be safe and cost effective for the city.

C. Hometown Grant “Love My Hometown”

Bunny had got word that this grant was cancelled for now. They are actively trying to find new funding to bring this back.

6. Open Business

A. Dog Park update

Tom Belco will meet with Bob and discuss this road issue.

7. Public Comments

None.

8. Staff Comments

City Manager, Erik Wilson came in at the end of the meeting. He reviewed information that had been shared with the public for the proposed power pole relocation on the mill site. It is the City of Plainwell's goal to move utility poles off the river to the south side of the property. They will try to keep as many trees as possible.

Cheryl Pickett mentioned about an idea for this year's arbor day tree to replace a dying tree from a prior year arbor day unless someone had a suggestion of someone else to honor this year.

9. Chairman's Report

None.

10. Commissioners' Comments

Bunny mentioned that the Boy Scout who is going to build new flower bridge boxes will probably be at our next meeting.

Tom asked about any additional cost to transport the flowers in the spring from Martin to Plainwell or if our guys were picking them up? Cheryl will find out and let the board know at the next meeting.

11. Items For Next Agenda

12. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Thursday, February 13, 2020 at 5 PM.

13. Adjournment

***Gina Berry moved to adjourn the meeting. Tom Belco supported the motion. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.***

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:55 PM.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,  
Cheryl Pickett