

**Presque Isle Parks and Recreation Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 18, 2023
Convened at Presque Isle Community Center**

Item 1-Call to order—The regular meeting of the Presque Isle Parks and Recreation Committee was called to order by Chair, Barb Peck, at 10:02 A.M. Wednesday, October 18, 2023. Also present were committee members Al Drum, Rich Schmalzer, Brian Luetzow, Eric Benn, Liaison Cathy Weber and town crew member Max Wallace.

Item 2-Approval of the minutes of September 20 , 2023--- Members suggested removal of a reference at the top of Page 2 that erroneously referred to citizens donating benches with memorial messages. Eric moved to approve the minutes as amended above, seconded by Brian. Motion passed.

Item 3-Public Comment---None

Item 4-Correspondence---None

Item 5-Old Business

Item 5a---Water level in the North Pond, Update---Commenting first on the south pond, members acknowledged that the south pond is up somewhat in recent weeks. The good thing is that the pontoon boat/band stage can now be moved to make room for winter sledding. The siphon stopped recently, and will be restarted after Halloween. The north pond appears to have risen about 18 inches in depth. Cathy discussed the need for insurance on the pontoon band stage, and the need also to establish a memorandum of understanding between the Town of Presque Isle and the Lions. Eric pointed out that we need to have the north pond as deep as possible for winter, whereas the south pond should be kept as shallow as possible to leave room for spring snow melt. Beaver activity on the north pond outlet structure needs to have Town Board attention toward developing a solution to the problem (beaver activity blocking the north pond outlet).

Item 6-New Business

Item 6a---2024 Budget---Barb asked Max for budget suggestions. Max felt that the Pipke Park pavilion floor needs an application of epoxy, with perhaps an addition of an abrasive to prevent slipperiness, with an estimated cost for epoxy amounting to \$2500. Max also will look into installing a fence at a position half way down the in-ground steps where the steps take a right turn to a popular shore viewing and resting place. This fence will encourage users not to leave the steps at this turning point onto a region containing anti-erosion vegetation. Max suggested also that some deck boards need replacing on the suspension pier at the boat launch area.

---Members then thoroughly analyzed the budget document from October, 2022, and agreed upon a new Parks and Rec budget document containing both carry-over (not completed in 2023) projects and new projects. Members further acknowledged that the ongoing effort by the Pipke Pond Restoration Committee (PPRC) may lead to five- or six-figure outlays for Pipke dam engineering and restoration construction efforts during the year 2024. Accordingly, members agreed to highlight a new year 2024 capital budget item ***to be entered on the Town's overall budget*** for dam remediation in the amount of \$200,000 as a reminder to Board members and citizens that restoration efforts will require up-front funding outlays by the Town. The year 2024 Parks and Rec budget document follows below:

**Parks and Rec 2024 Budget (Maintenance and Capital)
October 26, 2023**

Category 1—Maintenance Items

Item 1—Pipke Park pavilion floor—Epoxy Coating	\$2350	
Item 2—Log pavilion gutters and fascia	\$2000	
Item 3—Plantings for Town parks	\$500	
Item 4—Deck board replacement for Wilderness Park suspended pier	<u>\$1000</u>	
Total maintenance		\$5850

Category 2—Capital Items

Item 1—Railings and fence-Wilderness Park	\$2000	
Item 2—Concession stand toilet painting & new roof	\$5000	
Item 3—Wilderness Park hand pump rejuvenation	\$2500	
Item 4—Wilderness Park extended parking capacity	\$1000	
Item 5—Picnic table replacement as needed	<u>\$1500</u>	
Total capital		<u>\$12000</u>

Grand Total—Maintenance plus capital..... \$17850

Special Budgetary Note—Parks and Rec Committee suggests that the overall 2024 Town budget should include an additional capital entry to cover up-front capital outlays for the Pipke Park dam remediation project in the amount \$200,000.

Alan Drum
Secretary, Presque Isle Parks and Rec Committee
Transcribed October 26, 2023