

**TOWN OF PRESQUE ISLE
Parks and Recreation Committee
Minutes for Special Meeting-Tree Removal Pipke Park
Friday, October 27, 2023, 2:30 P.M.
Headwaters Realty Office**

1. Barb called the meeting to order at 2:30 P.M. Also present were Eric Benn, Cathy Weber, Liaison and Al Drum

2. Public comment—None

3. New Business

a. Tree removal and replacement planting in Pipke Park---Barb explained that Economic Development Committee (EDC) members have suggested that three pine trees be removed from the vicinity of the northeast corner of the Pipke Park pavilion. The trees, approximately 20 to 25 feet in height, and perhaps 8 to 10 years old, are thought to be unattractive. They are decorated with Christmas lights for winter events. EDC members suggest that the three trees be replaced by a new and well shaped tree which will be much more attractive for special event attendees.

Parks and Rec members had questions, such as when trees would be removed, why is there such a need so soon and so close to the Christmas season, how would such an undertaking be accomplished in such a short time, how big could a new tree be? Members launched a discussion about how to respond to the request. Members at one point acknowledged that Parks and Rec is not a “deciding” committee, but rather a committee that recommends actions to the Town Board. Members felt a decision for recommendation one way or the other could not be made at this special meeting because of the many unanswered questions.

Al moved to respond to EDC members that Parks and Rec members are interested in the project and are glad to extend an offer to attend the next EDC meeting in November to gather more information about the tree removal and to have their questions about the project answered. Barb seconded the motion; motion carried. Barb will contact EDC with this proposal. Parks and Rec members look forward to meeting with EDC in November.

4. Meeting adjourned at 3;25 P.M.

Al Drum

Secretary, Parks and Rec Committee

Transcribed November 6, 2023