



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

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Park Commission
Dan Iacovelli, Chair
Rob Jackson
Don Howes

Parks Commission Meeting Minutes 19 April, 2016

The Meeting of the Parks Commission was called to order at 19:30 by Chair Dan Iacovelli in the Draper Room of Town Hall.

Present: Dan Iacovelli, Rob Jackson, Don Howes, Dave Guglielmi, Mark Wyspianski, Walter Swift, Dorene Landry, Katie Cardinale, Steve Cardinale, Toby Booth, Melissa Martin-Lavache, Mike, Smith, Adam Fumia,

Chair Iacovelli moved to Agenda Items

Approval of minutes March 1st and March 17th

- Typo - Approved with amendments.

Pond - ESS Group

- Jim Riordan from ESS group to present current status and field questions
 - Proposal/end goal is to minimize pollution from storm water (wet discharge) as well as drainage during dry weather (dry discharge)
 - Nutrients in the discharge including pollution and fertilizer disrupt the pond, either through pollution or encouraging weed growth
 - Phosphorous is a concern, and can be controlled by managing the storm water, and by removing what is in the bottom of the pond.
 - The plan is to implement Best Management Practices (BMP), starting with a conceptual plan for stormwater improvements, and using that plan to apply for grants to get funding for the next steps. The goal is to capture the storm water, treat, and reduce the amount of bad nutrients and bacteria flowing into the pond. We did receive a grant for \$10,000 to continue with the work.
 - Proposed Best Management Practice would go near the tennis courts, south side. Most treatment would go underground and it should help the drainage in that area. The system would be a shallow depression that would capture water during the rain, and the water would be discharged after being cleaned through soil filtering and vegetation.
 - Report from New England Interstate Water Pollution Control accepted the report with minor comments. The goal would be to utilize the report to submit for additional grants to help with the work.
- Question - From October 2015 report, stated that the most significant dry discharge is from the upper part of the hill near the Milford town line.
 - Town has been talking to Milford about tracking down pollution resources through a joint grant application. Contact is no longer with Milford town.
 - This pollution is dry weather discharge, which represents about 1/3rd of the pollution. Other 2/3rd is wet weather discharge from storm drains.

Question - Why isn't the location near the band stand looked at for a larger catch basin. There was a concern about the water being collected by the tennis courts and how the water would get to the court area. The proposal includes a pipe from freedom street delivering water to the filtration system.

Question - If the concern is about water quality, why isn't the Board of Health involved and providing guidance? There are also questions about why we aren't designing for a catch basin by the bath house near the road. The board of health is not currently testing the water quality as there is no swimming at the beach. Highway department has the blueprints/plans for a catch basin near the bath house.

Question - Historically the majority of the pollution was around outfall 4/station 4 on Hopedale St, south of the bath house. The previous proposal used UV disinfection, so why aren't we looking at UV disinfection now? ESS explained that UV disinfection is high priced compared to the current holding systems proposed.

Fields (Town Park and Phillips)

- Baseball mound discussion - group reached out to Diamond Turf and another group, but no response yet. We currently have only one quote, but they do have adequate references including Mike Bresciani, where the company has rebuilt pitching mounds and home plate. They will also pull an insurance binder for the day. Other teams have been consulted and confirmed that only Junior Varsity practice might have a conflict but they can continue elsewhere.

- Motion to accept gift from Hopedale Youth Baseball and School, modified to split payment three ways. If the fee is under 20,000 additional quotes aren't required. Motion made by Don, seconded by Rob, MSDV Unanimous

- Additional loom is required to fill potholes and take care of any divots in the field. These need to be filled in for safety.

Town Park

- Working on a plan for warm water hand washing and an electric hand dryer. The total amount for the work would be \$475. We would use the Energy budget for this as it is electrical work

- Additional issues with two light fixtures of the north side of tennis court 1. One light doesn't work, the other has a bulb with no shield. Don motioned to accept a proposal for two LED fixtures at the north side of court 1, electric water heater in the bathroom, and electric hand driers, not to exceed \$2000. this includes the bucket truck. Seconded by Rob. MSDV Unanimous

Philips Field concession stand there is a flag pole but no spotlight. We could do an LED flagpole light for \$300. Motion made by Don, seconded by rob. MSDV Unanimous.

Hopedale Jays and Hopedale Softball leagues

- Rob to contact Hopedale Jays about the schedule for clarification. Motion made by Don to approve schedule.

- Fee charged for Hopedale Youth Softball League will be \$733 to the HYGSA

- No update from the Jays. Secretary needs a roster of attendees to estimate cost.

Friends of Historic Hopedale – Spooktacular event

- October 29th, 5K run and walk. 10 AM start for the run, 11:15 start for the walk. FOHH will need the use of restrooms and power behind the backstop, and possibly the bathhouse. The start/finish lines are still being worked out, and the team is working with the police chief and fire chief, and selectmen will be reviewed in May. There are no conflicts expected this year. Don motioned, Rob seconded. MSDV Unanimous.

Boy Scouts

- Application received for Milford Scouts to hike and camp in the parklands, hiking in Saturday afternoon, hiking out Sunday morning. Dan to contact Pack 4 to instruct them to contact police and fire departments for awareness. Motion by Rob, seconded by Don, Unanimous.

- Additionally, there is some interest in having Scout meetings at the bath house. No problems from board members.

Movie Night

- Approved conditional to insurance and calendar. Movie Night needs to contact Steve Sette regarding needs for insurance.

Secretary Position

- Proposal to hire a secretary to take notes with a stipend of \$1,000. Discussion over concerns regarding the budget and the spending of \$1000 for the minutes to be taken down.
- Suggestion that new members of the board may bring additional capabilities. Additionally, there might be kids on National Honor Society looking for projects.
- Topic tabled. Don to reach out to Derek to see if this would be possible with the National Honor Society

Goatscaping

- Discussions with Grazing Goats Incorporated, who would bring in goats, corral, and a donkey for protection from wolves. The goats would eat the growth at the waters edge of the pond removing the invasive species. The company denied our request due to the distance between Norfolk and Hopedale.

Rustic Bridge

- Our request for a capital expense to fix the bridge was denied. Currently the south wall seems to be mostly in the water. For safety the wall must be fixed
- The Historical commission at Blackstone Valley might be able to offer or lead us to some grant money as the bridge should be a historical item. Don will call Bonnie about potential help here. Bonnie has done a huge amount of work with cleaning up the parks she deserves at least a letter of thanks. Rob to write letter of thanks to Bonnie Combs.
- We do have some quote information for repair to the bridge...estimating 2.5 weeks before the project start. We don't know how long the repair to the bridge would take.
- Don and Mark to look at employing a temporary fixture to improve the safety near the fallen wall.
- Motion to appropriate up to \$11,000 from the revolving account made by Don, seconded by Rob. Unanimous

Trees in Parklands

- We have a quote for pruning trees quote around the parklands, including removal of select trees around the pond. Quote is for \$1000 and includes 4 men and equipment for the day (including the bucket truck, chipper/shredder).
- Discussion over reducing cost by having the Road Commission take down the trees that could be dangerous if fallen. If Road Commission can't do the work, we will quote work to take down only the two specific trees in question.
- There was a plan to go through and manage the trees a bit closer
- There was concern voiced regarding erosion near the waterline behind the red shop. The brush is getting cleared and without plants holding the soil together there could be some bad erosion into the pond.

Dog Park

- Katie Cardinale would like to spark up a discussion for a Hopedale dog park. The closest dog parks to this area are in Medway or Grafton. There is a problem with dogs being off leash in the parklands, and having a dog park might mitigate this problem. There is a company that offered to clean up any 'leftovers' in the park once a day, for the lifetime of the park. The biggest challenge at the moment is finding a proper location. Both square footage for the park, as well as adequate parking must be considered. There was discussion regarding the North side of Draper field, as it can't be used for athletics, but maybe it would be OK for a dog park?

- Hopedale Park Commission is in favor of the work Mrs. Cardinale is doing and is supported of the dog park.

Basketball Court

- The Court needs to be fixed, and we've received quotes for \$1750 (no warrantee) or \$6950 (with warrantee).
- Due to budget constraints the board is going to table this work until next Fiscal year and should be brought back before the board in July.

Irrigation system

- Repairs still need to be done for Philips Field, including two valves and one broken pipe. There is a quote from New England Irrigation to address the problems and get the irrigation system working again, quote is for \$1350. This would not address any winter damage that might have occurred.
- Motion to go with \$1350 and New England Irrigation made by Don. Seconded by Rob MSDV Unanimous

Potential Full Time Employee

- Some additional changes are being recommended to the position description, providing more of a contract between the parks and highway department.
- The proposed changes were not reviewed by all members before the meeting, so the board will conduct a follow up meeting on the 3rd of May at 7 PM to discuss.

Budget/Bills

- There are remaining bills totaling \$10,000 regarding the stormwater project, that would be paid by remaining grant money received roughly 10 years ago. There is additional grant money to be received from New England Interstate Watershed (\$10,000), but in order to receive that we need to pay this bill to ESS group. The remaining balance from the old grant is \$4,539 so Park Commission is responsible for \$6,796. Once the grant money comes in, the money paid out would be reimbursed. The money coming back can be used for weed abatement. We do not expect it to take a long time to be reimbursed.
- Motion to pay the ESS bills, made by Don, seconded by Rob, Unanimous
- Other Bills
 - Discussion over bags and bands used for the trash cans. Mark stated that the bags are working out much better than the raw cans and holes are placed in the bags to permit drainage.
 - Discussion over the printing bill to Blackstone Valley Tech for two bound copies of the previous stormwater report. Concern over lack of communication and the need to pay to have this printed and bound.
- Motion by Rob to approve all but the printing bill. Seconded by Don. Unanimous.

Last 48 Hours

- Annual Report that was submitted is an old report. A new report needs to be written ASAP for the 2014-2015 fiscal year - Rob to Rewrite
- Motion to close, made, seconded, 22:45 4/19, 2016

Hopedale Parks Commission
*Moved, Seconded, Discussed and Voted ** Roll Call Vote

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ADA Coordinator, Hopedale Town Hall, 78 Hopedale Street, Hopedale, MA 01747, or please call (508) 634-2203 at least 7 days in advance of the scheduled meeting.
