



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

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Park Commission
Don Howes (Chair)
Rob Jackson
John Waswill

Park Commission Meeting Minutes 16 March, 2017

Called to order 19:00

Attendance: Don Howes, John Waswill, Rob Jackson

Citizens: Dave Guglielmi, Jim Abbruzzese, John McCarthy

Approval of Minutes February 16, 2017

Motion to approve by Rob, seconded by John, MSDV Unanimous

Correspondence - requests Public Comment - Short Items (non-discussion)

- Letter from Dan Iacovelli regarding Phillips Field playground/installation. Don addressed verbally but will follow up in email.
- Various emails from solicitors regarding park equipment
- Note from Barry Gorman who will not be returning for the tennis program this year. Need to start actively posting the position opening. Possibly break out between adult lessons and daytime needs.
- Dave Guglielmi would like the board to recognize passing of Mr. Charlie Espanet, and has submitted the following note:

I would like the Board to note the recent passing of Charles Espanet. In addition to serving our community in many capacities, Charlie also served the Park Department for over twenty years, mostly as Recreation Director. It has been my privilege to work for and with Charlie as a Life Guard - Swim Instructor at Hopedale Pond.

Through Charlie's leadership and direction, town residents enjoyed one of the safest and best waterfront programs in all of New England. I would like the Board of Park Commissioners to recognize Charlie for his significant involvement in our community and his absolute devotion to the Town of Hopedale.

*Former Park Commissioner,
Dave Guglielmi*

Review previous action items

- Phillips Field playground and parking lot review
 - o Snow has put a stop on the project but has also delayed the usage of the field. We plan on using some extra granite curbing from the town and Redline will be installing for the parking lot. If additional concrete is required the previously approved allocation should be sufficient.
 - o We are still installing additional guardrails between the gate and the playground, but outside of that area we will be using barrier blocks.
 - o During the course of the project, a piece of conduit was installed in the ground to allow for an irrigation line. We have a quote for installation of three faucets, one at a manhole for blowout, one at the telephone pole, and one at the back of the sign. Emerald irrigation quoting \$635 to do the work.

- Town Park
 - o George Chapman has been working on the bathroom expansion for the handicapped facilities. All major excavation, all formwork, all backfilling, and all exterior framing is complete. There is a pile of dirt frozen that still needs to be pulled away. Photos are being passed onto the benefactor. The bathroom won't be ready for the 20th because it will still be too cold to put the water on, but once it is warm enough the normal bathrooms will be available for normal use.
 - o It was noticed that irrigation repairs are needed along the first baseline in town park, but no quotes or price estimates have been received yet.
- Long range Capital Planning discussion
 - o The group needs to review the full list of projects, and the Town Park bandstand needs to be added. The deck roof is leaking and is in need of repair.
- Hopedale Pond
 - o For the weed treatment, all conditions that were requested for have been supplied. We do have a list of abutters but we need confirmation of the criteria regarding required notification.
 - o Ice safety ladders - ladders with ring buoys to help people in case they fell through the ice. Dave G. talked to the Fire Chief and there was concern about people helping and getting themselves into trouble. The ladder is essentially a 2x6 with lateral pieces of wood attached. Dave will find out more information from Upton regarding the cost, materials, etc. This might be a potential Eagle Scout project. The Bathhouse would also need metal stands to be put in the ground to attach the ladder
- Conflict of Interest training
 - o Those that are staying need to take the conflict of interest training.
- BVT Cleanup Scheduled for March 22nd
 - o Cancelled due to the remaining snow. The school may have underclassmen at another time in the spring looking for community service hours.
- Prisoner Use for Park Cleanup
 - o If we send a letter requesting the service, there is a prisoner program that can work on cleaning up the park areas for 5-6 hour days. This service is already used for repainting town clerk's office and assessor's office. Most of the inmates are DUIs and minor drug possession. Don will get more information about what qualifies the inmate for the program.
- Eagle Scout Projects
 - o Updating the picnic tables for the parklands would be a great Eagle Scout project. The current tables are concrete and in various states of disarray. We would be looking a table inventory with numerical assignment and location, along with a picture of each table and what work needs to be done. This way we can prioritize which tables to be fixed first based on their current condition.
- Town Website Cleanup
 - o Work has been done to address the naming variations in the site. If there are still discrepancies please let the secretary know

New Business:

- Parklands/Trees
 - o Dana Wilson from Bump Your Stump worked approximately 5-6 days, focusing on removing several tall, dangerous trees. If anybody notices anything specifically threatening please let us know.
 - o There is a desire to remove Dutcher St. kiosk sign/map. The current sign is a plywood sign that is quite unsightly and not usable. There is a sign board that has the rules and regulations, which will remain, but the plywood map will be removed.
- Bills & Invoices
 - o Bill from Site-One for \$800 in fertilizer and grass seed with the vast majority being disbursed at Phillips Field. Some of the fertilizer/seed was also used at town park where the large ash tree was.
- Simplify Invoice Signing
 - o Looking to simplify the invoicing and payment processing for bills coming in. Anything paid in this way will be reviewed at the following meeting for public awareness. There is some question about how it changes the treasurer's process. The bookkeeping process will be the same, but the bill would be paid before the bookkeeping is done. Motion made to have John as the signee of all bills and invoices so long as the remainder of the board is notified of the payment within the range of the next meeting date/time. Made by Rob, seconded by John, MSDV Unanimous.
- Irrigation Repairs & Extension
 - o Tabled
- Boating Infrastructure Grant
 - o Grant possibly available via the Boating Infrastructure grant to help with the pond...there was a question about if this was a municipal property or property controlled by the DCR. Rob to print and drop the grant information off with Dave Guglielmi.
- Moving to Chase for the porta-johns instead of United Site Services. Extra weekly cleaning - United Site is \$75 for a weekday, \$40 from Chase. Additionally, United has not been incredibly responsive when contacted. Chase does weekend service for \$75, whereas United does not. Use of Chase would save roughly \$271 for the year. The contact was friendly, polite, and responsive on the phone. All units are at worst 2 years old. Decision to move with Chase so long as we aren't locked in for the year.

Public Comment - lengthy items

Rob motion to close at 19:56, seconded by John. MSDV Unanimous.

Hopedale Parks Commission

*Moved, Seconded, Discussed and Voted ** Roll Call Vote

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the 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 schedule meeting.
