



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

78 Hopedale Street - P.O. Box 7
Hopedale, Massachusetts 01747
Tel: 508-634-2203 x 302 Fax: 508-634-2200
Email: parks@hopedale-ma.gov

Park Commission

David Sprowl
Michael Ledone
Chairman Michael
Reynolds

Hopedale Park Commission

March 16, 2023

Meeting Minutes

7:00 pm Remote Meeting via Zoom

Attendance

Park Commission: Mike Reynolds, Mike Ledone

Clerk: Kristen Ledone

Guests:

Mike Reynolds called meeting to order at 7:04pm

Mike Ledone made a motion to approve minutes from February 14, 2023. Mike Reynolds seconded. All were in favor.

Announcements, correspondences and requests

- From a Summer Program perspective, Mike R had responded to all applicants. The board is looking for an individual to run the program, once someone is hired to run the program they will follow up with all applicants.
- As it relates to spring sports, Mike R has been in contact with Chris Nadeau at highway and has given him a "punch list". Tennis court nets will be put up, bathrooms are open, light timers are set to be adjusted. Kevin MacDonald will send a bill including closing/opening the bathrooms. The batting cage will be put up soon. Mike R had not heard from Stephanie if there would be a need for Lacrosse.
- Steve Bosma from highway requests came in. He was looking for funds to repair the fence at the Town Park around the baseball field, extra sand at the playground and a few odds and ends. The board decided to allocate up to \$500 to purchase the various items. Mike L made a motion to allocate up to \$500 for Steve/highway to address small repairs as needed at Town Park, Mike R seconded. All were in favor.

Public Comment - Short Items (non-discussion)

- Monica Philips recommended the board post the need for a Summer Program manager to the various social media platforms.

Review previous action items

- Town Park project updates. The Park Commission presented to the Select Board meeting- and had great conversation and great dialogue. Mike R said it was fantastic to socialize the idea and give visibility. The board is going to need the support of the community to drive the project forward. The first CPA meeting will be held, and the Town Park initiative will be a topic of conversation. Mike R is also looking at various grant opportunities and potential options. Mike R will also be setting up a meeting with State Rep Brian Murray. Mike L felt that the presentation was received well and reiterated that the band-aid approach is not feasible. Mike R and Mike L had a conversation with Monica Philips in regard to 2A.
- D&S quotes came in for Draper Field. The first quote came in to just level the field hockey field and hydro seed, \$15,000 would bring in loam and hand seed. The second quote was \$29,000 would also include loam with the addition of hydro seed. D&S said they would have to start work in April to have the field ready for the fall. Mike L has had no conversation with baseball. Mike R had a preliminary conversation with youth baseball, they told him they would probably be able to work something out.

Mike R will revisit the conversation with youth baseball or discuss with the president of youth baseball. Mike R said he would also discuss various watering options. Various members from the tennis program voiced their concerns regarding spending money at Draper Field where they have been without a home court for 4 years. Michelle Terrando asked if youth baseball had been asked to contribute financially.

Mike R said that they have not committed. Monica Philips asked if each individual sport could fundraise and raise funds for field improvements. Mike R said perhaps Boosters and the school could collect funds and then Parks could contribute to get it over the top. He would be willing to have that conversation. Mike L said the tennis court quote came in at \$38,000 plus the Draper quote is \$15,000. There is a \$25,000 shortage (parks budget plus \$5,000 Youth Field Hockey has committed to contributing). Mike R said this fiscal year the Parks Commission has about \$15-\$20,000 spoken for from their budget leaving about \$10-\$15,000 remaining for various repairs – a very small amount to allocate. Mike L said that with the budget parks currently has, they would potentially be able to give \$7,000 to Draper and \$7,000 to the tennis courts. Mike R explained that Tighe and Bond said the project can not be broken into parts. Mike L said that the track team has never had a track, never had a home meet. Mike R explained that Hopedale is unique in that the school does not have their own fields/facilities. Mike R said that Stephanie Ridolfi has not verbalized with him that field hockey can play there in the fall. Mike R took the action to follow up with youth baseball regarding contributing financially and if it would be feasible for them to have the work done during their season. He will also contact Stephanie Ridolfi.

New Business

- ADA compliant mats will be put down at the Town Park playground.
- Mike R is preparing for a budget reduction conversation. What the parks budget would look like with a significant reduction. Mike R is of the opinion that there is not a lot of room to reduce the repair budget. The treatment of the pond, summer program could potentially be cut.
- Mike R was approached by Jeff Nutting, he was contacted by State Rep Brian Murray and they put forth a request for a new boiler system for the Bancroft Library. Mike R submitted a write up of Phillips Field and the ability to put in a new well/irrigation system and a company to come in and grade and fill loam which would be about \$100,000.

Bills and Invoices

- Mike R had taken care of all bills. An additional invoice for dog waste bags will be coming in. Accounts are current.

Public Comment - lengthy items

- None

Report of board members

Other topics not anticipated in the last 48 hours

Mike L made a motion to adjourn the March 16, 2023 meeting. Mike R seconded. All were in favor.