



## **TOWN OF HOPEDALE**

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### **Park Commission**

Dan Iacovelli, Chair  
Rob Jackson  
Don Howes

### **Park Commission Meeting Minutes**

**March 17, 2016**

Chairman Dan Iacovelli called the Park Commission meeting to order on March 17, 2016 at 7:02 pm.

Members that were present: Dan Iacovelli - Chairman  
Don Howes

Members that were absent: Rob Jackson

Guest in attendance: Dave Guglielmi, Mark Wyspianski,  
Members of the Hopedale/Milford Soccer League; Dawn Macchi  
& Tasha Griffin, Member of the Youth Baseball League, Member  
of the Highway Department; Bob Deponte.

Approval of minutes was passed over.

#### **Parks/Highway New Joint Position - continued**

A discussion was held regarding the new role requested for some time now for the Parks and Highway Department. This would be a position shared and agreed the person would take direction from the Highway Department. Job description would include specific park responsibilities.

Before this position will be listed on the town meeting warrant, the Finance Committee is requesting a letter from the union approving this position which the boards feel will not be a problem to obtain.

Dan Iacovelli will be meeting with the Finance Committee on April 13 along with the Highway Department. All departments have been instructed by the Finance Committee to keep all increases for 2016 to a minimum. There could be an issue with getting the Finance Committee to approve this new position and Plan B would be to change the position from full time to part time. Discussion to continue as more information is received by the Finance Committee.

#### **Hopedale/Milford Soccer**

Representatives from the Hopedale/Milford Soccer League returned to see if the Park Commission will approve their request to use the Philips Fields for their soccer league for fall and spring practices and games. The League has agreed to paint the lines and will get in touch with the High School Athletic Director if the color yellow is appropriate to use. They discussed the fee of \$2500, half of which would be paid for each season as it is played. The League will bring their own nets and move them after each game so that the HS Lacrosse team can set up for their games. There is limited storage available for the League to use for equipment.

Don Howes made a motion to approve the request of the Hopedale/Milford Soccer League to use the Phillips Field for youth travel soccer for the spring and fall sports season for one-year term at the cost of \$1250 spring season and \$1250 for the fall season. Dan Iacovelli seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

### **Pond Weed Control Project- continued**

Dave Guglielmi informed the commission that Steve Settee is still examining the RFP and it has not been printed as of yet. He will talk with him to set a date to post this and get the bid process going.

### **Mower Repair**

Bob from the Highway Department reported that \$500 is needed to pay for the mower repair which was needed from a previous accident. The insurance company has paid the claim minus the \$1000 deductible with the Park and the Highway Departments are sharing.

Don Howes made a motion to appropriate \$500 towards the mower repair. Dan Iacovelli seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

### **Fin and Feather Fishing Derby**

A discussion was held regarding the return of the Fishing Derby, which was a great success in the past for Father's Day weekend and another weekend in July. They will also continue to have canoe rentals in the evenings. Don Howes made a motion to approve the Fin and Feather Camp program and Fishing Derby for 2 weekends this summer. Motion seconded by Dan Iacovelli and motion passed unanimously.

### **Summer Help – Update**

Barry Gorman, who manages the Tennis Lesson Program, reports that two employees have left his program and he has hired two new employees who were former volunteers. There is already a large number of applications and the program is almost full.

Tom Daige will meet with Barry to arrange for CPR training and it was stated the Cultural Council may want to join in on this training and will work with Mr. Daige to make arrangements.

The defibrillator came in and will be mounted within the bandstand.

### **Re-Key Policy - continued**

This policy is for all keys and locks on gates and storage units used in Hopedale Parks. So far they are half way through rekeying and distributing keys. The next areas to be rekeyed will be the bandstand, bathrooms and the bathhouse.

### **Spring Sports**

The High School Athletic Department is asking for several areas to be addressed as they head into spring sports. They are asking to trim the firegrass around Phillips Field to prepare for the Lacrosse games, which already has been done.

Mr. Atherton, Principal of the JSHS asked that the Park Commission appoint one person to act as the liaison between the Parks, Highway and School Department and Mr. Howes is interested in being this person. Dan recommends that the board wait until they have a full board before approving this contact position.

There were two other concerns one being the tree, and when it was removed if loam could be filled in around this area. The other being the crack in the tennis court, which cannot be repaired until the weather is at least 50 degrees. There may be a temporary patch in the meantime so that

the teams can use the court. There was another concern regarding containers at Draper Field but those concerns are to be addressed elsewhere as the fields at Draper are not under the control of the Park Commission.

Baseball coaches were asking for the pitcher's mound to be redone and they will check with the coach to see what they are looking for.

A representative from the Babe Ruth program was present and indicated that they may assist to build up the pitcher's mound with clay bricks as a combined project. He will follow up with costs for the next Park Commission meeting.

### **Earth Day**

Dan Iacovelli suggested an Earth Day project for the Parkland trails. The small streams that lead in to the ponds are clogged with leaves and debris and need to be raked out.

### **Blackstone Valley Tech. Community Project - continued**

Members of the BVT Leadership Team, Ed Evans and Matt Urquhart will be bringing 150 students to the Hopedale Parklands on March 23 to clear brush and debris from the Hopedale Parklands as a community project. Because of the number of students, 4 stations have been designated as follows:

Phillips Field

Little Red Shop area towards the Bathhouse

Bathhouse and towards the Parklands

Dutcher Street entrance and area

### **Irrigation System**

In Rob's absence, Dan informed the board that they will soon start the irrigation system. Don reported that due to a local health issue, the opening of the bathrooms will be delayed shortly. It is ready to go and just needs to be cleaned and supplies aged.

Water is not connected yet at the Town Park as they wait for warmer weather.

### **Phillips Field Playground - update**

Don Howes has contacted a volunteer who may do the excavation work. He should receive confirmation shortly.

Someone from the Softball League took it upon himself /herself to removed the fencing, which needed to be done. It has been determined that the poles can be reused. Further discussions will be held with the full board is in attendance.

Don Howes will check with the Athletic Director on how the lines for lacrosse need to be done.

### **Budget**

Dan Iacovelli presented the bills that needed to be signed and paid. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the ESS Group, Inc. bills. The cost of the report done by ESS had to be paid from the budget and once completed would be submitted for payment from a watershed grant the board had previously obtained.

ESS Group provided the Park Commission with a report that found three problem areas that needed engineered control devices due to contaminates found near Freedom St, Dutcher St and Northrup Street entrances to the parklands. These contaminates eventually flow into the pond and need to be rectified at some point in time, hopefully through another grant.

Don Howes requested that a representative from the ESS Group attend the next Park Commission meeting to review and then he will approve the appropriate bills at that time.

Meeting adjourned at 8:48

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Arcudi  
Substitute Secretary  
Parks Commission