



Board of Park Commissioners

Regular Meeting

335 South Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115
<http://www.de-pere.org>

Final Minutes

Thursday, December 21, 2017

6:30 PM

De Pere City Hall Council Chambers

Notice is also given that 3 Alderpersons in addition to those on the Park Board will be present at this meeting to gather information concerning subjects over which they have decision making responsibility. This meeting is therefore also rebuttably presumed to be a meeting of the De Pere Common Council under Wis. Stats. §19.82(2). No formal action will be taken by the Common Council at this meeting.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Board Member George Brown

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Ryan Jennings	Alderperson	Present	
Larry Lueck	Alderperson	Present	
Dean Raasch	Alderperson	Present	
George Brown	Board Member	Present	
Sue Schinkten	Board Member	Present	
Randy Soquet	Board Member	Present	
Bill Volpano	Board Member	Excused	
Ella Bublotz	Teen Advisor	Excused	
Lydia McMorrow	Teen Advisor	Excused	

II. Action Items

1. Approve Board of Park Commissioners Meeting Minutes from 11-16-17.

Randy Soquet made a motion to approve the Board of Park Commissioners Minutes from November 16, 2017, seconded by Dean Raasch. Upon vote, the motion passed.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Randy Soquet, Board Member
SECONDER:	Dean Raasch, Alderperson
AYES:	Jennings, Lueck, Raasch, Brown, Schinkten, Soquet
EXCUSED:	Bill Volpano

2. Approve Board of Park Commissioners Special Meeting Minutes from 12-14-17.

Sue Schinkten made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 14, 2017 special meeting, seconded by Ryan Jennings.

Ryan Jennings requested an amendment to the minutes to reflect Tina Quigley speaking on her own behalf and not from Definitely De Pere.

The minutes from the December 14, 2017 special meeting were approved unanimously with the amendment noted.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Sue Schinkten, Board Member
SECONDER:	Ryan Jennings, Alderperson
AYES:	Jennings, Lueck, Raasch, Brown, Schinkten, Soquet
EXCUSED:	Bill Volpano

3. Approve Brown County Ice Managment Quarterly Report.

Randy Soquet made a motion to accept the Brown County Ice Management Quarterly Report, seconded by Ryan Jennings. Upon vote, the motion passed.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Randy Soquet, Board Member
SECONDER:	Ryan Jennings, Alderperson
AYES:	Jennings, Lueck, Raasch, Brown, Schinkten, Soquet
EXCUSED:	Bill Volpano

4. Approval to Accept \$260 Donation from De Pere Area Men's Club for Recreation Scholarship

Dean Raasch made a motion to accept the \$260 donation from the De Pere Area Men's Club for Recreational Scholarships, seconded by Sue Schinkten.

Discussion followed regarding policies for funding scholarships.

Upon vote, the motion passed.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dean Raasch, Alderperson
SECONDER:	Sue Schinkten, Board Member
AYES:	Jennings, Lueck, Raasch, Brown, Schinkten, Soquet
EXCUSED:	Bill Volpano

5. Consider recommendation to council to change decision as it relates to Legion and VFW Pools.

George Brown spoke in reference to Legion Pool and the special board meeting that was held on December 14th. With area residents feeling very passionate about the pool the park board felt it was important to receive citizen input.

Discussion by the board members followed.

Ryan Jennings felt the residents that spoke are very passionate about keeping Legion pool and the importance the pool has to the community. The importance for kid's ability to walk or ride bikes to the facility was highlighted. He feels that the voice of people cannot be ignored and this decision should be sent back to council to reconsider whether or not the decision is the right one.

Randy Soquet felt there were a lot of great ideas and options received at the special meeting and that the decision should go back to City Council for consideration.

George Brown feels the park board cannot just send this back to City Council but needs to make a recommendation to City Council on what decision is best for the city and citizens.

Sue Schinkten summarized what she feels the main points were from the special meeting; the pool is a community gathering place; safety issues; the east/west side divide.

Dean Raasch stated that the studies were done to get an overall view of what was going to be best for the pools and the city. The studies show the greatest growth is coming from the south and adding improvements to the pool system have to benefit the entire city

as a whole. The conclusion from the studies was it was more affordable to go to an aquatic center

Discussion by the board followed regarding the pools declining numbers.

Ryan Jennings stated he voted for moving forward with the Aquatic Center at City Council, however with the 2014 community survey showing the majority wanted to maintain two pools, and the core group of people that are now organized, he feels the decision should be revisited. He was elected as an Alderperson to represent his district as well as the city, and his district has made it very clear they do not want to lose the pool. He feels if an aquatic center is built at VFW then Legion pool should be updated as well and the park board should send this back to council for reconsideration of closing Legion pool and building a single aquatic center.

Larry Lueck stated that without a doubt this was the most thought out decision ever made by the board. He doesn't mind thinking about it, but if this is sent to back to City Council it needs to be clear what the park board is looking for.

Dean Raasch has concerns that the longer that we go without making a decision, the more expensive the options will be. We need to look at what is best for the city as a whole and would recommend moving forward.

Sue Schinkten made a motion to open the meeting for public comments at 7:00 pm, seconded by Randy Soquet. Upon vote, the motion passed.

Mike Donovan spoke in favor of the aquatic center. He was on the park board and this was a well thought out and difficult decision to make. He knows this is not the most popular decision in this group of residents here tonight, but it is the most popular in the City and the park board should keep the decision of building an aquatic center on west side.

Betsy Hornseth stated that over 1,600 people signed the petition to save Legion pool. Many still question as why the decision was made with the survey responses and the consultant's recommendation of either keeping two pools or have one aquatic center and one pool. She spoke about the major points addressed in the petition.

Sandra Delgacco stated she runs a daycare and takes kids there for swimming lessons. She would like for Legion pool to stay open so she can give kids the opportunity to take swim lessons.

Angela Bougie had questions regarding the Legion facilities if the pool is closed. She also commented that numbers could be falling because there are missed opportunities at the facility. The basketball courts need updating and there is a new playground, but not one for small children.

Julia Vidani spoke about the safety issues and the difficulty for kids to cross the river. She also stated that an aquatic center is targeting the middle to upper income kids who can get rides there and pay a higher amount to get in and closing Legion pool eliminates a large segment of population who need the pool the most.

Alice Wood stated she rides her bike with her children everywhere in the summer. The pool is a draw for people to move to area and fix up downtown houses in De Pere. This is what makes De Pere special.

Kelley Quakkelaar feels repairing the pools will decrease the amount of money being lost every year and that solutions should be looked at instead of the problems with closing the pool. There are a lot of residents that are willing to help think of these solutions.

Dean Raasch made a motion to go back to regular order at 7:25 pm, seconded by Sue Schinkten. Upon vote, the motion passed.

Discussion by the board followed.

Dean Raasch commented that only a small percentage of people that signed the petition are City of De Pere residents.

Ryan Jennings explained that the number of traffic stops increased because the City now has a dedicated officer doing traffic stops. Ryan asked Marty Kosobucki if he could address the affordability of the facility and the recreation scholarship program.

Larry Lueck questioned Mary Kosobucki what the process would be if nothing was done tonight. Marty explained that feedback would continue to be obtained, the design would be finalized, a cost estimate for the facility would be obtained, and then funding sources would need to be decided on.

Dean Raasch commented on the safety of the roundabout and that the state and county are responsible for the area. He also commented on fundraising efforts and feels the fundraising option should continue.

Sue Schinkten feels the need to be creative on ways to get kids from the east side to the west side. The park will still be open so there would still be a gathering place and kids could still ride their bikes to the park.

Randy Soquet feels if people want to get organized to fundraise there is still plenty of time to make changes.

Larry Lueck feels there is no need to take back to council but to keep discussion going.

Dean Raasch also feels there is no motion needed but keep on course and keep the discussion going. If things happen that allows us to change course with funding source to help save Legion pool, this would be a whole different conversation.

George Brown agreed that we should continue down path but keep lines of communication open.

Marty Kosobucki commented on fundraising and feels that if the board is seriously considering changing direction they should stop the design process.

Randy Soquet questioned if the contract with the consultant expires.

Larry Lueck questioned Marty Kosobucki on staffing concerns.

Ryan Jennings feels the decision to close Legion pool should happen after the aquatic center is open. The question to City Council is whether they want to consider waiting until the aquatic center is open to close Legion. Separate the two issues, stay on course, and figure out how to keep Legion pool open.

Ryan Jennings made a motion to refer the decision of closing Legion pool back to Council and for the decision to close Legion pool be made after the aquatic center is open, seconded by Sue Schinkten. Upon vote, the motion failed.

Discussion followed.

Below is the roll call vote for Ryan Jennings above motion.

Ryan Jennings - Yes

Larry Lueck - No

Dean Raasch - No

George Brown - No

Sue Schinkten - Yes

Randy Soquet - No

Motion fails 4 - 2

George Brown stated that continuing the design of the aquatic center doesn't stop people from any type of fundraising to help save Legion pool.

George Brown made a motion to take a 3 minute recess at 8:05 pm, seconded by seconded by Ryan Jennings. Upon vote, the motion passed.

RESULT:	DEFEATED [2 TO 4]
MOVER:	Ryan Jennings, Alderperson
SECONDER:	Sue Schinkten, Board Member
AYES:	Ryan Jennings, Sue Schinkten
NAYS:	Larry Lueck, Dean Raasch, George Brown, Randy Soquet
EXCUSED:	Bill Volpano

6. Select Bid for Community Center Boiler Replacement.

The meeting was called back in session at 8:10 pm.

Ryan Jennings made a motion to accept bidder 1 – Tweetgarot, seconded by Larry Lueck. Upon vote, the motion passed.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Ryan Jennings, Alderperson
SECONDER:	Larry Lueck, Alderperson
AYES:	Jennings, Lueck, Raasch, Brown, Schinkten, Soquet
EXCUSED:	Bill Volpano

7. Consider Lease Option for Mower Replacement.

Sue Schinkten moved to approve the leasing option for a zero turn mower, seconded by Dean Raasch.

Discussion from the board followed regarding the cost of the mower, how long they typically last and long term lease options.

Upon vote, the motion passed.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Sue Schinkten, Board Member
SECONDER:	Dean Raasch, Alderperson
AYES:	Jennings, Lueck, Raasch, Brown, Schinkten, Soquet
EXCUSED:	Bill Volpano

8. Consider Agreement with De Pere Unified School District to Financially Support Lighting.

Marty Kosobucki updated the park board that the \$15,000 funding for tennis courts lights at De Pere School District was approved by City Council and put into the budget.

Discussion by the park board followed regarding agreement language.

Larry Lueck recommended that language be added to the agreement that states the lights will not require payment to use them.

9. Consider Action with Use of Old Diamond Lights from Optimist Park.

Marty Kosobucki gave a review of the options available for the old diamond lights from Optimist Park.

Discussion by the board followed.

Larry Lueck made a motion to send back to staff and for Marty to research financial numbers for option 1 and option 3, and replace option 2 with the possibility of pickle ball court lighting, seconded by Dean Raasch. Upon vote, the motion passed.

RESULT:	REFERRED BACK TO STAFF [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Larry Lueck, Alderperson
SECONDER:	Dean Raasch, Alderperson
AYES:	Jennings, Lueck, Raasch, Brown, Schinkten, Soquet
EXCUSED:	Bill Volpano

10. Discussion of Fairgrounds Planning Process.

Marty Kosobucki gave an update on the Brown County fairground planning process and asked the park board for guidance and input to give to Brown County.

Discussion by the park board followed.

After discussion the board provided input that the boat launch, ice rink, and eagle nest and oak trees are not to be changed, but are open to other changes.

RESULT:	DISCUSSED
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III. Staff Updates

1. 2018 Approved Budget - Changes

Marty Kosobucki provided an update of the approved budget and the only major change was the funding of the tennis courts lights at De Pere High School.

IV. Future Agenda Items

Larry Lueck requested an update on the band shell.

Larry Lueck requested for Marty Kosobucki to look into the funding of youth sports organizations prior to the next budget.

Randy Soquet requested the soccer field conditions be put on the agenda for discussion.

V. Public Comment Period

None

VI. Adjournment

Randy Soquet made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm, seconded by Sue Shinkten. Upon vote the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Grace Lahtela