

Akron Park Board

July 23, 2024

Present: Kirk Robinson, Member; Jim Steen, Member; Katie Newcomer, Member; Jan Morgan, Member; Rebecca Hartzler, Clerk-Treasurer; Jake Gearhart, Superintendent; Anthony Newcomer, Assistant Superintendent

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 PM.

Katie made a motion to accept the June 19, 2024 regular meeting minutes as written. Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>. 4 ayes.

Current financial report as of June 19, 2024 was presented.

Kirk shared that he and Phil Allen picked up the new Pike Memorial Park Entrance Sign from Fort Wayne. It will be installed in the coming weeks. Kirk suggested a gift card from Jonesy's Junction for Phil's assistance. Katie made a motion to get a \$50 gift card from Jonesy's Junction for Phil Allen. Jim 2<sup>nd</sup>. 4 ayes. Rebecca will get the gift card and write a thank you note to Mr. Allen.

Kirk discussed with the group tree damage from the increased storms the last several weeks. The town guys have done an exceptional job of getting things cleaned up following the storms. There was a tree by the Senior Apartments on Rural St damaged in the last storm that needs added to the tree removal list. Jake shared that AR Tree Service will be in town on Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup> to remove several dead/damaged trees.

The kids that use the soccer field are still leaving trash on the ground. Jake & Anthony will place a trash can right next to the soccer nets to hopefully eliminate this issue.

Kirk discussed benches at Pike Memorial Park and turning them in a different direction since the horseshoe pit was removed and another bench by the West Pavilion walking trail.

Kirk will send Rebecca a link to the company to order more signage for Pike Memorial Park to keep vehicles off the grass. We will also get an updated rules sign for Cutshall Park since the entrance gate was removed after the trash dumpsters were relocated.


Kirk discussed the tennis court net and needing to be fixed. He said he will use zip ties and repair it himself. Jake & Rebecca shared with the park board that a concerned citizen called regarding the high voltage box not being secure. Jake added a padlock to the box.

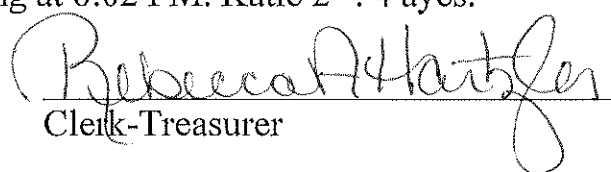
A quote from Cottage Watchman was presented for a new security camera system at Pike Memorial Park. Kirk will contact Harper with Cottage Watchman to discuss the quote before the board makes a final decision. Rebecca shared with the board there is \$15,000 allocated to help cover the cost of the camera upgrade.

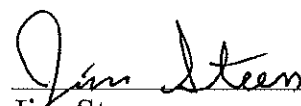
Rebecca informed the park board that the 2024 Akron Youth League is officially over. There were 140 kids who played this year. AYL also had the opportunity to host the 12U Town and County Semi-State Boys Tournament in July. We received several compliments on the facility however the only complaint was the field lights for the late games. This is a major need that needs fixed before the 2025 season. Rebecca is working to obtain quotes for the cost of new lighting for the boys diamond. Rebecca will seek funding to help complete the project. Rebecca also discussed the current condition of the concessions stand. The AYL Board would like to discuss soon with the Akron Park Board about a new facility being relocated between the two diamonds in a more centralized location. Jim suggested including both items in the 5-year park plan before submitted to the IDNR.


The next park board meeting is scheduled for August 21, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.

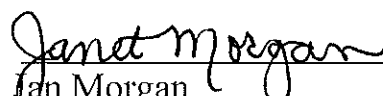
Kirk made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 PM. Katie 2<sup>nd</sup>. 4 ayes.

  
Kirk Robinson

  
Clerk-Treasurer

  
Jim Steen

  
Katie Newcomer

  
Jan Morgan