

City of Portage  
Common Council Committee of the Whole  
Council Chambers  
May 2, 2013, 7:00 p.m.

**1. Call to Order**

Council President Dodd called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Present: Ald. Dodd, Ebnetter, Garetson, Hamre, Havlovic, Klapper, Maass, Miller, Oszman

Also Present: Mayor Tierney, City Clerk Moe, City Administrator Murphy, City Attorney Spankowski, Director of Public Works/Utilities Manager Redelings, Manager of Parks, Recreation and Forestry Raimer, Assistant Police Chief O'Neill

Media Present: Craig Sauer from Portage Daily Register, Bill Welsh from Cable TV

**3. Discussion and recommendation for timelines and commitments for the Splash Pad and Skateboard Park Projects**

Jerry Foellmi representing General Engineering gave a presentation on the park plan layout. He informed the council that the sewer and water laterals are installed and proposals are out for the design build for the building.

George Beasely spoke on behalf of the Splash Pad stating that \$132,000 has been raised for the components of the Splash Pad; and there is approximately \$9,000 in the bank. In-kind donations have also been received. The group is planning that the pad be open July 4th and that the shelter housing restrooms and concessions, and road are not necessary to be in place when the pad opens. The group continues fundraising.

June Paul spoke on behalf of the Skateboard Park stating that the group is looking for a 501(c)3 group to take on the project so that fundraising may begin. The estimated cost of the project is \$175,000. The group is looking to apply for a grant, which has a deadline of July. Various ideas are being looked at for fundraising.

Mayor Tierney explained that the purpose of the meeting is to have an understanding of what the city's financial commitment for the projects is and timelines for completion.

The city is responsible for constructing the shelter and putting the road/parking lot in; both of which are currently unfunded. The Splash Pad group has in-kind donations for laying the blocks for the building, roofing and plumbing. As the building will be a city project, the public construction laws must be followed which make it more complicated, but possible, when including in-kind donations for labor.

According to Director of Public Works/Utilities Manager Redelings the timeline for Phase 1 of the Splash Pad project is as follows: pad will be operational July 4th; site utilities will be complete tomorrow; the pad construction will take place in May as well as the design build for the building to house the controller to run the splash pad.

Parking was discussed with concern that initially there will be no parking on the site. Parking in a fenced grass area near the splash pad was discussed as a temporary measure until the time the road/parking is put in.

Funding options were discussed. \$90,000 is included in this year's budget for the foundation and roughing in the electrical and plumbing for the controller. It may be a possibility for the road to come out of borrowed funds, as some projects that have come in under budget; but no commitment can be made at this time because of other projects. There was also discussion about including funding in the budget the next two years. The Splash Pad group was encouraged to continue fundraising as well. \$30,000 is included in this year's budget for the Skateboard Park.

Motion by Dodd, second by Oszman to recommend to continue with the plan in place this year, but add a fenced parking area on the grass by the splash pad; budget and construct the shelter in 2014; budget and construct the linear parking area/road in 2015. Ald. Garetson expressed support for the motion except having a parking area on the grass. Motion carried 8 to 1 on call of roll with Garetson voting no.

#### **4. Adjournment**

Motion by Oszman, second by Klapper to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously on call of roll at 8:55 p.m.

Marie A. Moe, WCPC, MMC  
City Clerk