

**PARK & RECREATION MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1999
6:30 P.M.**

- Call to Order:** The Parks and Recreation Board met on the above date and time in the Council Chambers, 270 W. 15th Street, Rushville. President John Gridley called the meeting to order. Parks Board members present were George Coons, Jack Harmon and Greg Raike. Roy Bartlett and Wilma Jo Kile was absent. Also present was Ron Wilson, Attorney; Carla Sharpe, Secretary; Julie Hogsett, Chamber Director; Jan Voiles, Rushville Republican and Scott Murry, WRRC.
- Minutes:** Minutes of November 9, 1999 was presented for approval. Coons moved to approve minutes. Harmon seconded. Motion carried.
- Reports:** Gray reported that things are going OK!
- Reported that we are getting a new portable ice skating rink. It's a 50 x 100 feet portable rink and will be installed as soon as it gets here. This will be placed in the outfield of the softball diamond next to the pool. We will be able to use the lights for nighttime skating. The surface or skating area will be 45 x 95 with one foot sideboards with foam caps on the edge. Will have runners to and from the rink with benches on sides. There will be 2 ½ to 3 inches of water down for the ice. An ice resurfer has been purchased. This is actually a pretty simple deal with usage times being December, January and February and possibly the first week of March depending on weather. The skating season for us will be a good 100 day season.
- Gray also asked the board if they had a problem regarding end of year claims. Between now and the end of the year he will have one more major claim and that the City Council will convene during the last week of the month to approve claims. Gray asked Wilson if the Council could approve a claim for a computer for the pool to run the chemical system. Wilson stated that this board needs to give permission to purchase the computer and to have a not to exceed limit then the Council can approve it. Gray stated that it will run \$1,700 to \$1,900 for the computer. Harmon questioned the requirements and software for the computer. Gray stated yes the software will be purchased and he will be trained on it. Harmon made a motion to authorize Gray to purchase the system which must be compatible with the new pool and that it not exceed \$2,500. Raike seconded. Motion carried.
- Gridley asked why the playground equipment is still laying in the park. Gray stated they haven't had the equipment to pick it up and he was missing some pieces. He just got pieces in and will install this next spring.
- Raike questioned getting purchase orders in place to zero out the budget. Gray stated he could carry over 1 or 2 items for purchase of pool deck and concession equipment. Raike stated he came up with \$17,600 money left in budget but that the claims aren't out yet. He highly recommended Gray carrying over the money on purchase orders so we can have this money to buy things for the pool. Raike feels that we need these things next year and this is the way to get them. Gray stated he hasn't considered carrying over money but that he has been checking out prices on appliances. Coons stated its like Christmas, lets put presents under the tree. Lets get things now if money is there. Raike stated that if this money is not spent it will go back to the General Fund. He looks at it like the quality of life and if we can give the taxpayers items, we need to do that. Gray stated the next two weeks he will follow up on this and give it some consideration.
- Claims:** Raike and Coons reviewed the claims prior to meeting. Raike moved to approve the monthly claims plus a claim from Patriot Engineering and Environmental Co., LLC for \$195.75. Coons seconded. Motion carried.
- Old Business:** R. L. Turner's Payment Application #5 was presented by Sharpe for approval in the amount of \$279,555.00 Raike moved to approve Payment Application #5, Coons seconded. Motion carried.

New Business: **1. Discussion of New Park** – Julie Hogsett was present on behalf of the Rush County Economic and Community Development Corporation (ECDC). She stated that the ECDC would like to get involved with this recreational part of the Flatrock River Project new park. She stated they are very excited about participating and spear heading this project and would like to implement a plan and set an agenda. There is money out there available and they are up for a challenge and this would be great. Gridley stated he feels we need a rendering of basically what we would like this park to look like and thanked her and stated we need all the help we can get and appreciates the idea and is anxious to get involved. Gridley suggested putting together a committee consisting of a couple City Council members, County Council members, ECDC members, Parks Board members and Parks Director and Mayor. Hogsett felt this was a good idea. Harmon stated the purpose of this committee would be design and development. Gray stated that now we are at a spot to begin and take action on this. Hogsett will work up a committee and report back to this Board. Hogsett thanked the Parks Board and told them she really appreciates the change to get to work on this project. Harmon told Hogsett that we appreciate the ECDC's support.

2. Brief Review of 99 – Gridley asked Gray if there was anything we can help with. Gray stated the big task for 99 was accomplishing the pool project. Now the ball is rolling and feels now our goal should be fundraising efforts. He means to pursue grant monies for this new park and move on from getting the pool up and going. Harmon stated that we are actively involved in pursuing funding but grants are very, very well defined of the nature of the grants and the use of funds and we need to whittle down our guidelines and get a scope of the project. Harmon stated he thinks we need to review the Master Plan and compile a list. We need direction. We need a road map before we can start the car. Gray stated he definitely wants to initiate a process to update the Master Plan. Harmon stated he feels it's the responsibility of this board as a group to update the Master Plan, define the scope and start with existing plans. We need to revise the details and set priorities then kick in and pursue money. To get grants we have to know what the money is for. Gray stated Harmon was 100% right and that good action plans need to be in place.

Raike stated that he feels the first meeting in January we should work on the Master Plan.

Raike also complimented Gray on doing a great job with the Parks.

Harmon asked if it was possible, to get from past minutes, what was pared off of the pool project and get a list by the next meeting.

Gray stated that the next meeting in January was scheduled for Tuesday, January 11th and him and Donnie will be attending a two-day plumbing workshop on the 11th and 12th and that we may want to change that meeting date. The board agreed to tentatively set the next meeting date for Thursday, 13th.

3. Election of Officers – Harmon moved to retain Gridley as President, Raike seconded. Motion carried.

Coons made a motion to retain the rest of the officers as has been. Raike seconded. Motion carried.

The slate of officers are as follows: President – John Gridley
Vice President – Jack Harmon
Secretary – George Coons

Wilson stated that Clarkson Law Office will be the new Lawyers.

The board thanked Ron for doing a great job and giving this board tremendous advice. The board concurred Ron will surely be missed and was greatly appreciated and thanked him for all his help.

Raike stated that with the new millennium he feels we should plant an oak tree on New Years day in the Parks.

Gray stated that an oak tree would be a great idea as we are getting ready to loose a couple of old ones.

The board all felt this was a good idea.

It was decided Sharpe will let the board know when the tree will be planted and what time.

Items Not Known In Advance:

There being no further business, Raike moved to adjourn. Coons seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

JOHN GRIDLEY, PRESIDENT

JACK HARMON, VICE PRESIDENT

ROY BARTLETT, MEMBER

GEORGE COONS, MEMBER

WILMA JO KILE, MEMBER

GREG RAIKE, MEMBER

ATTEST:

CARLA SHARPE, SECRETARY