

PARK BOARD

April 13, 2026

The April 13, 2026 Park Board meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers by Kate Niederkoehr, Chairperson. Park Board members present were Cathy Browne, Dean Leonard, Kate Niederkoehr, Erin Smith, and Bill Sturgeon. Jon Blackburn was absent.

Others present included: Kyle McColly, Mayor; Todd Karg, Parks Manager; Stephanie Hessey, Human Resource Officer; Mike MaGinn, Fire Chief; Rodney Donohoo; Karin Donohoo; Laura Wines; Janeen Heilman; John Walker; Brian Hemminger, Daily Chief Union; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk (via zoom).

The summary of bills totaling \$429,482.61 was presented.

A motion was made by Ms. Browne, seconded by Mr. Sturgeon, for the approval and payment of bills totaling \$429,482.61. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried.

The minutes of the March 9, 2026 Park Board meeting, having been mailed to each Park Board member, were approved as received.

At this time Pastor Rodney Donohoo, Apostolic Gospel Church, addressed the Park Board requesting permission to hold their annual Block Party in Harrison Smith Park on Saturday, August 15, 2026 and utilize the Bandshell and the grass area in the northwest corner of the park for the event. They are asking to be able to access the facilities from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on that day with the event scheduled to begin at 12:00 p.m. (noon). In addition, they would like to host a community 3-on-3 basketball tournament on the basketball court as part of the event. Pastor Donohoo also requested use of the Bandshell on Friday, August 14, 2026 from 5:00 p.m. until sunset for live music rehearsal. Park Board members voiced no objections to these requests but noted that a liability waiver will need to be completed prior to the event taking place.

Discussion was again held regarding pool admission prices for the 2026 swimming pool season. It was decided that the admission prices would be the same as those charged in 2025 as follows:

	<u>City Residents</u>	<u>Non-City Residents</u>
Single	\$50.00	\$60.00
Senior Citizen (over 60)	\$40.00	\$50.00
Family (limit 4 – maximum 2 adults)	\$120.00	\$150.00
for City Residents and Non-City Residents + \$20.00 each (2 additional children maximum)		
Daily Pass	\$5.00	\$5.00
Twilight (admission during the last 3 hours)	\$3.00	\$3.00

The possibility of informing season pass holders that if the pool closes after June 30, 2026 that no refunds will be issued was also discussed.

A flyer containing information about pool parties was shared. Pool parties can be held on Sunday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m and Monday thru Saturday evenings from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. The cost of a pool party is \$125.00 including the first twenty-five (25) swimmers and \$5.00 for each additional swimmer. Pool parties can be booked by contacting a pool manager.

It was noted that six (6) engineering firms submitted information for the Request for Qualifications for the Harrison Smith Park Swimming Pool Project that were received as of March 17, 2026. The members of the Park Board reviewed the information presented and provided a ranking of the engineering firms. Discussion was held regarding the information presented and the next step in the process for selecting an engineering firm. Mayor McColly indicated that it is his understanding that the next step following the selection of an engineering firm is to negotiate the cost of the engineering services to be provided.

A motion was made by Mrs. Niederkohr, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to proceed with Brandstetter Carroll, Inc. and negotiate the engineering services to be provided for the Harrison Smith Park Swimming Pool Project. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Mrs. Stephanie Hessey, Human Resource Officer, reported that City Council has approved the labor agreement between the City and the Utility Workers Union of America, Local #G555, covering eligible full-time employees in the Street, Sanitation, Water Plant, and Wastewater Plant departments. A wage adjustment for Park Laborers, who are non-union employees, was discussed.

A motion was made by Mr. Leonard, seconded by Ms. Browne, to adjust the hourly wage of the Park Laborers to be the same as the Street Department Laborers. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Mrs. Hessey also indicated that the compensation of an Acting Supervisor in the Service Departments, under the Utility Workers Union of America, Local #G555 contract, increased from \$10.00 per day, as previously set by the City, to \$21.00 per day.

A motion was made by Mr. Leonard, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to approve the increase of an Acting Supervisor in the Parks Department to \$21.00 per day. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Mrs. Hessey stated that the City has customarily paid returning seasonal employees an additional 25¢ per hour for each year they return, but there is no policy to address this practice.

A motion was made by Mrs. Niederkohr, seconded by Mr. Sturgeon, to approve an additional 25¢ per hour each year for returning seasonal employees. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mrs. Niederkohr, seconded by Mr. Sturgeon, to enter into an executive session to discuss a personnel matter regarding employment. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried. Upon completion of the executive session, the Park Board reconvened into regular session.

A motion was made by Mrs. Niederkohr, seconded by Mr. Leonard, to offer a full-time Park Laborer position to one of the candidates who applied and was interviewed for the position. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Mr. Karg reported on the following work being done in the Parks Department:

- The Parks Department employees have cleaned up the parks following recent high wind storms.
- Mowing at the parks continues.
- All benches and picnic tables have been removed from the white shelter in Harrison Smith Park and placed in various locations, including the picnic shelters, throughout the parks.
- Repairs to all of the playground equipment have been addressed.
- A sign in Duck Pond Park was repaired.
- Memorial trees to be planted in the parks have been ordered.
- Water in the parks' bathrooms has been turned on.
- Mr. Steve Rhoden, Parks Department employee, assisted with installing a new garage door at the storage shed at the Rotary softball field in Harrison Smith Park.
- A game plan is being devised for hanging the veterans' banners.
- The Splash Pad in Bicentennial Park will be set up for operation soon.

Mayor McColly reported that an application has been submitted for grant funding for the installation of the inclusive playground equipment in Bicentennial Park.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned.