

**CITY OF EAGLE LAKE  
PARK BOARD MEETING  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2023**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:47 a.m.

Members Present: Beth Rohrich, Don Wesely, Jeremy Horkey, Shane Wendland, Garrett Steinberg  
Staff Present: Public Works Director Andrew Hartman and City Administrator Jennifer Bromeland

**Treasurer's Report**

The treasurer's report was presented. City Administrator Bromeland stated that \$50,000 was allocated in the 2023 budget for capital outlay purposes. The park board capital outlay balance available is \$117,933.95, and this includes the 2023 allocation. It was noted that the park land balance is \$16,746.94 and does not yet reflect monies that are due from Fox Meadows for the park land dedication component. It was noted that the final plat will not be signed until these fees have been received.

**New Business**

1. 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Activities at Lake Eagle Park: 2/4 from 2-4 PM. City Administrator Bromeland reported that Mankato Area Public Schools (MAPS) Community Education staff will be assisting the Park Board with programming at the upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Activities Event that will be held at Lake Eagle Park on Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup> from 2-4 pm. There will be sledding, open skating, show shoes, crafts, and scavenger hunt. Cookies and hot chocolate will be provided. Various area businesses will again this year donate prizes for a drawing. Park Board members were asked to arrive at least a half hour before the event begins to determine volunteer assignments and assist with set up. It was noted that if inclement weather, the event would be postponed to either the 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, or 25<sup>th</sup> of February and an announcement made. Park Board member Beth Rohrich noted that she will bring the A frame signs that were previously made for this event and used for placement in the road. Park Board members were asked to help spread the word about the event. The event will be advertised using the City's website, Facebook page, Parks Facebook page, email distribution, and newsletter. City staff will notify the media in hopes that they may be willing to run something for no cost.
  
2. Friday Family Fun Nights at Eagle Lake Elementary from 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. (February 3-March 24). City Administrator Bromeland reported that she and Park Board member Rohrich previously met with Mankato Area Public Schools (MAPS) Community Education staff and the Eagle Lake Elementary School Principal about the possibility of reinstating open gym. Following that discussion, the Friday Family Fun Night concept was derived and will include activities such as open gym, library and maker space activities, BINGO, and trivia. Each week, different activities will be offered to families to enjoy together at Eagle Lake Elementary. There is no cost for families to participate. The Park Board will be contributing \$500 to help offset costs associated with staffing. MAPS Community Education staff will facilitate the programming at the Friday Family Fun Nights and provide staffing. Park Board members noted that they would be willing to help volunteer as open gym monitors and anywhere else that is needed. Park Board member Don Wesely mentioned the possibility of utilizing hockey equipment that was purchased for use at the rink this past summer during Friday Family Fun Nights.
  
3. Miscellaneous Park Updates.
  - a. Lake Eagle Park. Public Works Director Andrew Hartman distributed a drawing of a proposed park shelter layout. Included on the drawing was a proposed full block wall with countertop on the north side of the shelter. It was noted that there would be an ADA compliant bathroom added. The existing concrete where the former pavilion was located will be removed as the dimension of the park shelter will change. It is anticipated that roof of the shelter will connect

with the roof on the bathrooms. The building inspector was consulted and advised that a code analysis by an architect would be needed and a structural engineer to design the park shelter. Public Works Director Hartman indicated that a lumber yard could be contacted to draw up the design and have a code analysis performed by an architect. Discussion took place about possible future efforts to obtain grant funding and donations to help offset project costs. The consensus of the Park Board was that action needs to occur and a new shelter constructed as there is a need for a park shelter. Parks Chair Horkey noted that he has been in communication with MAYBA about moving the bases at the softball field.

- b. Fraze Park. Discussion took place about the condition of the existing play structure at Fraze Park and whether it should be removed and if so, what the plan would be for disposal (sell or donate) and also what the plan is for a new play structure. It was discussed that sanding and refinishing are needed if the play structure will remain until it is replaced as it has been in use a long time and in need of maintenance. Park Board members discussed future play equipment replacement plans and overall vision of the park. Discussion included the possibility of repurposing the volleyball court and replacing with a t-ball field or pickleball court. Discussion will be ongoing and a plan is needed.
  - c. Eagle Heights Park. Public Works Director Hartman shared that a priority will be getting grass to grow this spring. It was noted that a couple trees were planted last fall.
4. Other. Discussion took place about the upcoming water tower rehab project that is scheduled to begin in April and wrap up by mid-July and the impact on Music on Parkway events. It was suggested that perhaps 1-2 events be moved to Lake Eagle Park until the water tower rehab project is complete. Park Board members expressed an interest in working with the Eagle Lake Area Lions Club to serve food with funds being put back into parks projects. Administrator Bromeland shared that she is a member of the Eagle Lake Area Lions Club and will ask the group if there might be an interest to partner together at an event at the park and serve food with all proceeds to benefit parks projects. City staff will check with MAYBA on scheduling and Thursday evenings as it relates to holding an event at the park. Park Board member Rohrich encouraged Park Board members to be more involved in spearheading and moving forward parks projects and initiatives so that staff doesn't get bogged down with tasks that could be handled by the Park Board members to keep momentum going on projects.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 a.m.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer J. Bromeland  
City Administrator