

WEYMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
Public Parks and Recreation Committee
Town Hall Council Chambers
February 20, 2018, Tuesday

Present: Jane Hackett, Chairman
Michael Molisse, Vice Chairman
Kenneth DiFazio, Councilor
Thomas J. Lacey, Councilor
Arthur Mathews, Councilor

Also Present: Steve Reilly, Director of Parks & Recreation
John MacLeod, Director of Asset Management

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

Chair Hackett called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM. Chair Hackett welcomed the new committee members. Steve Reilly and John MacLeod were invited to the table to present a field update in Power Point:

- Facilities improved
 - Lovell Field
 - Libbey Field
 - Weston Field
 - WHS Baseball Field
 - Negus Field
 - Gifford Playgroud
 - Julia Road Field
 - Madden Field-Bicknell
 - O'Sullivan Basketball Courts
 - WHS Basketball Courts
 - Lane Beach Basketball Courts
 - Brad Hawes Park Ball Field
- Additional work/equipment to accommodate other sports
- Construction Budget

Mr. Reilly noted that some expanded backup was provided to the committee. Mr. MacLeod reviewed the driving factors. Chair Hackett asked that they speak to the cost savings by using the same contractors particularly with Lovell and Libbey and she also noted that unforeseen circumstance were handled. Without it, the schedule would not be where it is and they would have lost a season to some sports. At Stella Tirrell, funds were approved for the skate park with additional funding sought to add landscaping and

greenery to bring it to the level of the other Village Squares. Chair Hackett asked for an update on how the meals tax revenue was utilized.

Councilor Lacey thanked them for the presentation, he noted the partnership between departments and that projects were completed on time and under budget.

Vice Chairman Molisse echoed his comments.

Chair Hackett noted it is a tremendous collaborative effort and is visible by the cross section of people in attendance: School committee, administration, and staff. She appreciates the work and they will continue the meeting to another date to continue the review in scheduling and fee structure.

- Estimated Maintenance Cost vs Projected Revenue

Mr. MacLeod noted that the goal is to make the fields last longer instead of extending warranties. It costs \$6,000 per field for deep cleaning and prep and the cost to extend warranties is \$50,000. Multiple fields have irrigation. Landscaping- some can be done in-house and some are better left to professionals.

Councilor DiFazio asked about the lifespan of the fields. Mr. MacLeod responded that the average age is 4-8 years but with proper care could be closer to 10. He also asked if the revenue generated from field use is deposited to a single account. Mr. Reilly responded that it currently it is, but he also cautioned that not all fields will generate the same revenue.

Chair Hackett reported that there has been meetings and ongoing discussion with the administration so that it is similar to the enterprise fund established during the previous administration. She also noted she has significant concerns with how much users will be charged. They will need to deliberate before establishing the rate structure. This is the inaugural year for the fields. She suggests that they take a look at what they are charging and she added (to end users present) that they contact district and councilors to ensure they are paying what they can afford, to be able to play.

- Field Permits

Mr. Reilly presented an overview. Weymouth's needs are first and foremost and a schedule has been built around the accommodations. Chair Hackett asked that he speak to prioritizing school sports. Mr. Reilly responded that the schools come first and they will work with the Athletic Director, then the town user groups, and then open it up to outside groups. These are the proposals and are not set in stone. Weymouth boasts the first turf baseball field in a public school, so they don't have a benchmark to work with. Chair Hackett noted the tremendous work up to this point and they will continue to review further at the next meeting. Chair Hackett asked that this presentation be posted online. The Committee will resume with the fee structure at its next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:27 PM, there being no further business, a Motion was made by Councilor Molisse to Adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Councilor Lacey. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Barker, Recording Secretary

Approved by Jane Hackett as Chair of the Public Parks and Recreation Committee.
Voted unanimously on 19 March 2018