

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
September 12, 2023
MINUTES

Present: Shawn Talbot (Chair), Jason Somero, Debbie Deaton (Town Administrator)

5:00 Open Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance

5:05 Parks & Rec-Mindy Buxton:

Mindy stated a lot of work needs to be done at the park and would like permission from the Board for her husband (Anthony) to do some of it. She stated he is fully insured and has the equipment. The only cost to the Town would be for materials. He is volunteering his time and equipment.

She will post on the website & Facebook that the park will be closed that day for renovations.

There are some things at the park have been neglected over the years. There are a couple of hazards on the equipment that need to be removed because of injuries, swings need to be replaced because of rusted chains and ripped swings, the Gaga court needs to be moved, the BBQ pit needs to be moved, the sand needs to be replaced, etc. The All Star Café needs to be removed and a new one should be constructed.

Mindy said the materials for the BBQ pit and Gaga court are already there, the new areas just need to be cleaned and prepped.

Mindy added someone donated a handicap swing. Shawn asked if the funds that have already been raised can be used for another swing or some other piece of equipment to make the playground more accessible. Mindy said both ideas are great. Mindy said we need to start replacing most of the equipment down there because it is so old and showing significant wear and damage.

Shawn said these things should be added to the CIP. Mindy said she was thinking about using Capital Reserve funds for some of it.

Jason said we can have the DPW bring material to the park so Anthony can use it to fix drainage and the foundation around the snack shack. Shawn agreed. Jason said he will talk to Peter about it when we find out what will be needed. Mindy added there is a bush that needs to be removed because the roots are affecting the foundation and possibly the septic. Shawn and Jason agreed.

Mindy said her goal is to clean up the park and make it safer for the kids and she has a lot of fundraising ideas for next year. She would like to restructure Parks & Rec financially. Shawn added the momentum needs to keep going. He also said the community effort to keep Parks & Rec going is amazing.

Jason asked if there were plans for a pavilion. Mindy said she would like to put up a temporary one until we have the funding for a larger more permanent one. There is nowhere for people to go to escape the sun or rain and it's a requirement for the park. Ideally, the pavilion would be 28x40. The slab will be donated when the time comes. Jason said he would pledge detailing on the steel. Shawn added it should fit 8 to 10 picnic tables and possibly incorporate the Snack Shack into it. This would make it easier to get volunteer to work in the shack so parents could watch their kids' games while their working.

Jason asked if the funds for the pavilion would be in the budget or Capital Reserve. Mindy responded it would be from Capital Reserve or the Revolving Fund or a combination of both.

Shawn said it's Memorial Park and we need to find a way to honor people (members of Town who have contributed a lot to the Town, Veterans, etc.). He and Mindy suggested bricks that can be engraved.

The Board agreed to let Anthony do the necessary work.

6:30 Non-public RSA 91-A:3, II (c):

At 6:30, Shawn made a motion to go into non-public session. Jason seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. At 6:55, Jason made a motion to return to public session. Shawn seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Jason made a motion to seal the minutes. The motion was seconded by Shawn and it passed unanimously.

A payment arrangement was made.

7:15 Non-public RSA 91-A:3, II (c):

At 7:15, Shawn made a motion to go into non-public session. Jason seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. At 7:30, Shawn made a motion to return to public session. Jason seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Jason made a motion to seal the minutes. The motion was seconded by Shawn and it passed unanimously.

A payment arrangement was made.

At 7:35pm, Shawn made a motion to adjourn. Lou seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Deaton
Town Administrator

Minutes approved by BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Shawn Talbot, Chairman: _____

Jason Somero: _____

Lou Alvarez: _____