

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 26, 2023

**THIS IS A DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD ON
OCTOBER 24, 2023**

The Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting held September 26, 2023 at the Excelsior Springs Community Center was called to order by President Jake Simmons at 6:01 p.m.

Roll call was taken with five board members present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: President - Jake Simmons; Vice President - Patrick Halfhill; Sherri Branson-Hurt; Scott Buckman; Zac Wilkins

Terri Irons arrived at 6:02 pm.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mark Bullimore, Jessica Meyer, Kyle Uptegrove

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON: Reggie St. John

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT LIAISON:

STAFF PRESENT: Nate Williams – Director; Drake Pollard – Assistant Director; Chad Clevenger – Manager - Parks and Open Space; Janet Morehead – Administrative Assistant

VISITOR: Elizabeth Barnt, The Excelsior Standard

Sherri Branson-Hurt made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Patrick Halfhill seconded the motion, motion passed, 6 – 0. A show of hand vote was taken: Ayes – 5 – Sherri Branson-Hurt; Scott Buckman, Patrick Halfhill, Jake Simmons, Zac Wilkins Nays – 0

Elisabeth Barnt was introduced. She is a news writer for the Excelsior Springs Standard.

Terri Irons arrived at 6:02 pm.

Patrick Halfhill made the motion to approve the minutes of the August 22, 2023 Excelsior

Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting as presented. Scott Buckman seconded the motion, motion passed, 6 – 0. Ayes – 6 – Sherri Branson-Hurt; Scott Buckman, Patrick Halfhill, Terri Irons, Jake Simmons, Zac Wilkins Nays – 0

Patrick Halfhill made the motion to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2023 Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting as presented. Zac Wilkins seconded the motion, motion passed, 6 – 0. Ayes – 6 – Sherri Branson-Hurt; Scott Buckman, Patrick Halfhill, Terri Irons, Jake Simmons, Zac Wilkins Nays – 0

Councilman St. John thanked the Board for having a special meeting to approve the Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation FY 2023-2024 Budget.

Discussion was held on the September 26, 2023 FY 22/23 Financial Report. Questions were asked and answered.

Patrick Halfhill made the motion to accept the September 26, 2023 Financial Reports including Balance Sheet dated 09/20/2023 for Accounting Period 11/2023, page 1; Revenue Report dated 09/20/2023 for Accounting Period 11/2023, pages 1 - 2; Detail Budget Report by Category dated 09/20/2023 for Accounting Period 11/2023, pages 1- 4; Account Activity Listing dated 09/20/2023, pages 1 - 20; and Nate Williams' 2022-2023 Working Budget through 9-20-2023 as presented.

Scott Buckman seconded the motion, motion passed, 6 – 0. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes – 6 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Scott Buckman, Patrick Halfhill, Terri Irons, Jake Simmons, Zac Wilkins Nays – 0

STAFF REPORTS

There has been an increase in vandalism in the parks since school started.

The skills portion of youth soccer is going well. Youth volleyball did not have a hired coach teach the skills portion because staff felt that the volleyball coaches had a handle on volleyball.

Drake Pollard discussed FEAT. There were 288 visits in September with 25 - 30 youth enrolled.

Jacob Leonhard has applied to the Excelsior Springs Police Department and has had a conditional offer made by the Police Department. He will be planning to attend the police academy. Parks, Rec and the Community Center will be sad to see him go but is excited for this next step in Jacob's life journey!

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nate Williams has set meeting dates for the Parks and Recreation Committees.

The Parks Committee will meet at 5 pm on November 28, 2023 before the Board meeting.

The Recreation Committee will meet at 5 pm on December 19, 2023 before the Board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Nate Williams updated the Board on the parking area and engineering at the Milwaukee Street Park.

Nate Williams will set up a joint meeting between the Excelsior Springs Parks Foundation and the Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board to discuss and review plans for the Milwaukee Street Park since this is a project that the Foundation is funding.

NEW BUSINESS

Nate Williams compared the costs and water usage between Rainbow Splash Park and splash parks in surrounding towns. This comparison analysis came about when questioned by a City Councilman.

Rainbow Splash Park uses a recirculation water system that requires staff on hand whereas Kearney, Smithville, Lawson and Liberty use a flow through system. Kearney, Liberty and Smithville does not track water usage.

Rainbow Splash Park water expenses are water - \$2,797; staff costs - \$11,436.00; maintenance - \$1,592.03; alarm - \$395.40; 911 phone - \$405.71; concession supplies - \$261.80; Clay County Health Permit - \$350.00 for a cost of \$17,237.94. Rental income - \$625.0 and concession stand of \$569.00 for an income of \$1,194. Total expense cost for Rainbow Splash Park is \$16,043.94 for the 2023 summer season.

Reggie St, John commented that the water conservation aspect is a major conversation.

Drake Pollard and Nate Williams will be attending the National Recreation and Park Association National Conference in Dallas, Texas the week of October 8 - 13.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Zac Wilkins asked if there was mulch piled at Siloam Springs Park and it is dirt to level out the low and uneven places.

Sherri Branson-Hurt made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Patrick Halfhill seconded the motion.

Jake Simmons adjourned the September 26, 2023 Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting at 6:51 p.m.