

**MINUTES – HULL PARKS COMMISSION**  
**Wed., September 12, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.**

**TOWN OF HULL MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**4550 WOJCIK MEMORIAL DRIVE, STEVENS POINT, WI 54482**



**1) Call to order:** The meeting of the Hull Parks Commission was called to order on Wednesday, September 12, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. by Parks Chairperson Dave Wilz at the Hull Municipal Building, 4550 Wojcik Memorial Drive, Stevens Point, WI 54482.

Present: Dave Wilz, Mike O’Keefe, Brian Hicks, Janeen Cooper, Jim Mendyke, Maurice Stoltz, Roland Schroeder, Parks Secretary: Patty Amman, Hull Road Foreman: Pete Kaminski

**2) Approval of minutes from June 20, 2012 Parks meeting.**

O’Keefe I noticed at the last meeting there were some comments about that vacant house on Piccadilly Court. Evidently, it’s my understanding that they completed the mold abatement on that house. It was pretty bad but they evidently completed it. They’re slowly making progress on it so hopefully in the next 5 or 6 months we’ll see it go up for sale.

Schroeder It does look cleaner. I noticed, I went past to take a look at it.

*Motion made by Jim Mendyke to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2012 meeting. Seconded by Maurice Stoltz. Motion passed.*

**3) Citizens wishing to address the commission on non-agenda items. Agenda items are for discussion and possible action: NONE.**

**4) Announcements; Chairperson and Members.**

Wilz First thing is we are in the middle of the budget process as a Town. We’ll probably be finalizing things in about 3-5 weeks. Everybody is busy looking at the numbers and seeing what we’ve spent and where we think we’re going to end up. We haven’t heard yet out of Madison anything about what they’ll be doing with some of their aids that go to local municipalities.

Second, gas stations; if you haven’t heard, there are 2 proposed gas stations on the Hwy. 10 East corridor. The first one will be by Hwy. 10 and Old Hwy. 18. Right behind Pete Taggatz’s office. There’s a house and an extra lot right there. Two houses. That’s what Kwik Trip is looking at opening.

Stoltz They’re not taking Trzebiatowski’s / Taggatz house too?

Wilz            They might. The site is there.

O'Keefe        They're going to try to build it south of the house that's sitting there?

Wilz            Yes. Maybe they'll take Taggatz's out and that will be an accommodation for how they'll have to do the road to get in. I don't know. But those two lots are where the property site is for that. That one is within the Stevens Point Wellhead Protection area. In fact the well is literally across the highway back by Hilltop / Iverson. The other one is down on Hwy. 10, further on down (*east*) adjacent to the Parkdale Development on Badger Ave. and Hwy. 10 East. If you were heading out of town, you would turn on Badger to go back towards the ice arena and soccer fields. As soon as you take a left, that woods right there on the right, which is attached to a wetland area, that corner, there's about 2.7 acres right there that Schierl has a high interest in. That is in the Wellhead Protection area too. It's on the edge, but still within the Wellhead Protection area. That property there was in Hull, it's already been annexed. That got done at a (*City*) Plan Commission and at the Common Council two times ago. In fact there was 20 acres in there and they annexed the whole 20. We fought that. We didn't fight the annexation because cities have the right to annex but we fought the annexation for the intended use of a gas station. Since that has happened, there has been another Plan Commission meeting in Stevens Point and a Common Council meeting coming up on Monday (Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>). They're going to vote. The Planning Commission has approved the sites to be used for gas stations all the way through and it'll be in front of the Common Council on Monday. If that was not a City property now, Portage County would never allow it because Portage County does not, in their Wellhead Protection, allow underground tanks. Because of annexation, Stevens Point has a little bit lighter or less stringent laws and plus, they process their water. They do things differently so they don't think that Wellhead Protection deal is that big of a deal. So Hull is up in arms. We have our subdivision across from there and those people are very concerned. People that live in the Parkdale area, Stevens Point residents are very, very concerned. Not just about putting a gas station in a Wellhead Protection area but its wetlands, there's a park in there. It's all of that. Why would you put any of that at risk? People have been very active, as you know, if you've seen them going around trying to get support. The Common Council has a voting body of 11. They need 6 votes. They were saying, maybe we should try to postpone it. I said I don't want to postpone it. I just want to defeat it because postponing it means they're going to win but it's just a little further on down. I've listened to all the debate. It's been interesting. I don't know that there is a need for two more gas stations out on Hwy. 10. Especially when there's no frontage roads to accommodate all the potential traffic.

Stoltz         What are they going to do with 5 gas stations when the bypass goes around?

Wilz            I really don't know.

Stoltz         That's only 7 years away. Supposedly 2020 is when that bypass was supposed to be finished.

Wilz            I spoke to this at the Common Council. Everybody was saying, you're going to wreck our water and we're going to have all these accidents. I kind of took a business approach

and said, you know, if we've got a higher demand for gasoline, the need to expand and offer more services is one thing. If it's a matter of, hey, that's a pretty cool spot and I can get a bigger share of the market that's already there, that's another thing. It's not government's role to regulate business. Government needs to stay out of it. It's the free-market thing. So I'm okay with it on one side but the other thing is its water. Maybe that trumps free-market and the rest of that. I don't know. I've been opposed to it and I've spoke to it. But what have you heard?

Mendyke I didn't know even that much about it.

Wilz It came up real quick.

Mendyke I just know that when you're developing, you don't need to have a market study saying that there's a need for it.

Wilz No.

Mendyke I think it would make sense that you should. But if someone is willing to put up money to do something, there doesn't necessarily have to be any.

Stoltz I'm thinking Schierl wants their gas station and they're going to bring Subway from Parkdale and bring it in with the gas station like they have on (*County Road*) R on Brilowski. Otherwise, that's known to all those people that live in those apartments or the people that use the ice arena but otherwise hardly anybody else goes there.

Wilz The gas stations on Hwy. 10, I use those, they are the busiest ones in town. Fleet Farm is crazy. When you have 3-4 stacked in how many lanes, it tells you that's where there's a lot going on.

Hicks That first one coming into town, that's a gold mine. I don't think it's a good idea but if I'm Schierl Tire, that's where I'd want that.

Wilz Another concern is that's a very dangerous place there, to get in and out of. It doesn't have any accommodation for traffic. It'll be interesting. If you are opposed, let your voice be heard. Call the City up, call the alderpeople up, call the mayor, let them know this is a bad idea. I'm just against it because it's in a Wellhead Protection area and we formulated this years ago as a community to protect everyone's water.

Cooper I was just wondering why they're taking the woods instead of going to the west where there is that open field that is kind of adjoined to Parkdale?

Stoltz Because the acreage is cheaper. That's City property. That's got water and sewer so the land is worth a lot more than it is on the other side.

Wilz They'll get water and sewer.

Stoltz Right but I mean they're buying the land cheaper than they could across the street.

Wilz           Right. There's a lot a places to develop in there. I didn't check but somebody told me that Parkdale Development...here's a great example of intergovernmental cooperation, when that was developed, Wescott was mayor. Stevens Point government and Town of Hull government, Stevens Point residents and Town of Hull residents got together and talked about that development and what it should look like. Everybody got their input. The Ford's and others who owned it were at that table too. It was a collective agreement on what it was to smell and feel like and everything else. Now they veered off of it because of financial reasons but they still stayed within the spirit of it and someone told me that a gas station was not allowed within the Parkdale Development. That's why they can't buy that.

Stoltz           It's part of their covenant.

Wilz           It's part of the covenant so literally 66 ½ feet across the road, that wasn't included. Any other comments about the gas stations? The Schierl site came up first. We knew about Kwik Trip and we were waiting for that other shoe to hit. How we knew about it, what's the story that John told us?

Amman           There was some woman who was walking or doing something out in her yard and there was this guy who was out there surveying and she said, "What are you surveying for?" And he said, "don't tell anybody, but..."

Wilz           Famous last words.

Amman           She sort of let John have a clue that something was happening there.

Wilz           So he kept talking about that one. There's a gas station coming...then all of a sudden the Schierl one came up and he said it's not that one, I'm talking about a different one. So we knew there were possibly two and they rolled them both out. They rolled the first one out and then boom, the second one came right behind it.

Stoltz           So as far as you know, it's just going to be that Hoppa property that's going to be the Kwik Trip. Not where....

Wilz           That's my understanding. That's the site property. Where they're going to build it. Nobody talked about what they're going to do to accommodate getting in there and what else they might have to acquire, because that's going to sell diesel so you're going to have trucks.

O'Keefe           I didn't realize Kwik Trip sells diesel.

Wilz           Oh yes.

Hicks           The one on Hwy. 66 does.

Stoltz           That's going to put a kibosh on The Store, they sell diesel. They've got a good business there.

Wilz                So that's what is going on and the big controversy.

Mendyke        I know when they were looking at the former Lullaby site for some senior housing, there were a lot of people that came out to oppose it and the alderperson listened to what the people wanted. Every voice is important.

Stoltz            Look at when Home Depot was looking at that area, the same place.

Mendyke        It's across the street.

Stoltz            It's that narrow strip between the Highway fence and Old 18. But I remember when they went around with all the petitions for the Home Depot, they were going to take Nick's Drive out.

Wilz              17 homes.

Stoltz            Yes, and back it up to the homes on Pine Oaks Court.

Wilz              The difference at that time, though, was that it was Wescott and when he heard all that, he talked to Home Depot and said, "You know, I've got to kind of side with what I'm hearing." And Home Depot just said, "We don't want to be where we don't feel welcome." So they backed off. But that mayor got involved. This mayor is literally leading both of them from the front. I get where he's coming from. He's looking at this as additional tax revenue. He's got a shortfall that's a whole lot bigger than ours and he's got the ability to grow out of that through business so he's taking the opportunity.

O'Keefe        But you've got to look at the community and how it's affected. Doesn't he care about the community? That doesn't make sense.

Wilz              Come to a Common Council meeting sometime and listen and make your own decisions. Luckily the new Well over here off of Plover Heights is operational now. That was put there for two reasons. #1, that Well over by Iverson, they said at some point needed to not be used anymore because they were getting some stuff in the water that they didn't think they'd be able to treat long-term, plus it had a lot of infrastructure problems and that sort of thing. So to offset that need, they put this one over here and this one is big enough and with its technology, it literally could run all of Stevens Point just out of this one well. So it's meant for growth so they did it right. Anybody else have any announcements?

## **5) Update on Siren in Northwest Hull & Potential Tractor Purchase.**

Wilz              Pete, tell us about our siren.

Kaminski        It's supposedly up and running. I haven't heard it. Mark Kluck was out there, I think, last Saturday at 11:00 a.m. in the morning when it actually goes off and I got a memo from him that it's up and running.

Amman He could actually hear it? Or was it just going around?

Kaminski No, he could actually hear it.

Amman Because the first time, it was going around, but it wasn't making any noise.

Wilz Do you know do they set that off at 11:00 a.m. like the other municipalities?

Kaminski As far as I know, yes.

Stoltz They go off at 11 a.m.

Kaminski It was a long process. We started back in March I think.

Wilz Remember I communicated with you guys about having to vote on this and having a meeting because this thing was going in. It only took another 3-4 months. Bring us up to speed on the tractor.

Kaminski We haven't bought one yet but we've been going through the budget and we do have some money left over from some other areas. We're going to be having a budget meeting next week. Right Dave? It got approved Monday night at the (*Board*) meeting but we still need to go through our budget one more time to be sure.

Wilz To make sure we have it. Actually we expanded the purchase from this tractor that would be used for our purposes for our parks and maybe some of these trails and projects we've been wanting to do to probably a little bit bigger and it'll be used for roads, ditching and compacting, we're getting a roller. So we're getting a tractor, a compactor/roller and a trailer. So we expanded it all. We had a road project that we were trying to get a 50/50 grant on and we didn't receive the grant. So our 50% that we budgeted, we didn't have enough money to do the project without the grant, but that became available.

Kaminski There was \$39,500 left in that project and we bought a brand new hotbox to fill potholes which we needed desperately as the other one was rotted out. That was \$14,700 some and now I believe we have \$24,700 left in there.

Wilz Plus our \$7,000. It got approved, as Pete said, Monday, conditionally as we move into this budget process to make sure that we're not going to have any significant shortfalls this year. I've already let the budgeting committee know that if we don't buy it this year, that this \$7,000 from Parks has to be encumbered and moved into a side account so we can utilize it for next year. It looks like we're going to be able to get this.

**6) Status Update of Park Lawns and Trees – Pete Kaminski.  
Combined with 7.**

**7) Update on Park Equipment Installation – Pete Kaminski.**

Wilz I'd like the members to talk first on what you're seeing in terms of the parks in terms of lawns, trees and any of that and then I'd like Pete to report on that too.

Cooper I like the new stuff. It's good to see a lot of kids playing.

Stoltz Yes, our parks are getting used a lot.

O'Keefe There are a couple of dead trees over by our park there. Two big jack pines. But that new playground equipment is getting used a lot. The grandkids love it!

Stoltz I love it!

Mendyke It's fun. We have spinning things in both parks now.

Wilz The tall one is at Somerset.

Stoltz Somerset then, it's got the teeter-totter thing.

Kaminski The Spinomi is at Jordan Acres.

Mendyke The kids love it. Those were good choices.

Wilz Brian, what kind of conditions are you seeing in the parks?

Hicks Nothing bad that I've noticed.

Wilz The grass is coming back. The trees got stressed, some of the new ones but you were watering and all of them came back except for one down by us that we might lose but there were 3 or 4 in there that were just dropping everything.

Kaminski We were watering all summer. I think there were 8-10 of those spruce that were planted back in 2000 back by you that were turning brown. There we did not water because we couldn't keep up on watering. I would have had to have a guy in there 24/7.

O'Keefe I noticed over by me, even the white pines, a couple of them died because of the heat this year. If the maple trees show stress, don't cut them down, they'll come back.

Wilz What are you seeing out there Pete?

Kaminski Well a lot of brown grass for one thing. We started mowing again this week. Meadow Manor park is in really good shape. It's a lower ground and the ground is heavier there. The grass is dark green. There is one big dead oak tree by our sign there in Meadow Manor Park. It's got the oak wilt. I'm probably going to leave it in there for 2 years because they say after an oak dies, you are supposed to leave it in there so the oak wilt doesn't spread. But it's supposed to stay standing there for 2 years. As far as looks, it'll look terrible but that's how you are supposed to handle that. Either that or you can cut it down but then you need to go with a backhoe and dig a trench around it through the roots. So we'll see what's going to happen.

Otherwise we are out there mowing and Randy is mowing the other parks. He said there isn't much grass but there are a lot of weeds.

Wilz            How many weeks this summer did you guys not have to go out and mow?

Kaminski      We didn't mow much at all but instead of mowing, we were out there watering so we're still spending money in the parks. One man was out there. Otherwise, whatever you guys had written down on the (*park inspection*) sheets, that's all taken care of. The only thing that still needs to get done is chips inside 2 or 3 of our parks. Meadow Manor is done, Jordan is done, Somerset is done.

O'Keefe        Have you looked at the picnic table over in the park by my house? I noticed there were some bolts missing under the legs of it.

Kaminski      How long ago?

O'Keefe        A couple of weeks ago.

Kaminski      Because Randy brought one back in to the shop but I didn't ask him what park it's from. He was doing something to it. I'd have to ask him.

Wilz            I see we just purchased some infant seats, some new rubber ones, 8 of them.

Kaminski      I might order more plastic ones. The ones that I've got say they are for children 1-5 but they have the next set higher, for 5-8 year olds. It's a plastic one that you sit in but your legs don't go through like on a baby seat. We need to order some more.

Wilz            Okay. At \$100 a seat.

Schroeder      On the park across from Conifer, the last few days when we had that last heavy wind, I would be going out to get my mail then I hear strange things and I'd look and there are some pretty big branches falling. Nothing is on the trail but a lot of those pines in the northwest corner, they're really laying over onto some of those oaks and those oaks look like it's maybe affecting them. I'm concerned when buggies and mothers are walking through those trails. I don't know if you can take that bigger tractor and push them.

Kaminski      If I can get in there.

Stoltz          They're ordering a smaller one.

Schroeder      When we get the new one, that'll be smaller.

Stoltz          It's not going to be a small one. It'll be a lot bigger than the original one.

Wilz            No, it's still going to be relatively small.



Kaminski About 35-40 horsepower.

Wilz Can you look at that from a safety standpoint?

Kaminski I'll go out there tomorrow at look at it.

Wilz The other thing in that part over there, there is a dead tree in there now, I just noticed that.

Stoltz In Conifer?

Wilz Yes.

Schroeder There are several by the road. The pine doesn't look as bad now because the wind helped that. It took the top out so there's only about 15 feet and it fell the right way.

Kaminski I've been out there. This spring I cut down quite a few.

Stoltz Did you count that tree in Conifer that you cut down by the east?

Schroeder That oak, that was good to see because that was leaning there. The inside of that thing looked pretty bad.

Stoltz I was wondering who picked up all the oak. One day I walked by there and somebody had cleaned up all the oak.

Kaminski Some resident had called me who lived up on Audrey's and asked if they could have it and I said no, that is the Town of Hull. If I give it to him, then...unless you are the landowner, then you can have it, if not, I bring it back here.

Wilz Yes, we have a policy on that.

Schroeder But those oaks in the back of Conifer Acres, they just disappeared. I think it was that neighbor in the back there. Jim K. said yes, he would go in and I said no. But I said you never called Pete, Jim, because Pete was open.

Kaminski Remember that guy by the other park, Pleasant View? That neighbor over there, one of our trees was leaning towards his property and he asked me, he said he could take it down. Him and his buddies, they work for a tree company. I gave it to him last year because I could not get in there with my tractor and equipment to push it over so I gave him the oak tree.

Wilz That makes sense.

Hicks What do we do with the wood?

Wilz We bid it out. Pete puts out an official bid, how many cords and what's in there.

Kaminski There will be a lot of cutting going on here. There's a awful lot of dead ones that this winter I'm going to cut out.

Wilz We always have 4 or 5 people bidding on it.

Kaminski Oh yes, sure.

Schroeder I think there's a lot more burning wood now. Outdoor furnaces.

Wilz That's our policy. If there's something on the right of way or something on our property, it has to be cut down, if it's in the right of way, we will offer it to that land owner, if he wants it. He's got to get it out of there. That's how it's done.

**8) Review of Budget vs Actual - YTD.  
Combined with 9.**

**9) Discuss preliminary Parks budget for 2013.**

Wilz On our budget, Patty sent those out and I also have some updated sheets (*handouts*). We have some updated year-to-date information through the end of August because that one that we sent out was through the end of July. The one that was attached to the agenda and sent out was really a budget worksheet that I was using to put together an anticipated budget for next year because that was being requested. But going back to this August 31<sup>st</sup> one, this is accurate up to the point of this \$861 for these infant seats, they are not reflected on here. Overall I would say we are in pretty good shape on Parks through the end of August. Pete, when are you generally done drawing against the labor in the parks? Is that mid-October?

Kaminski Pretty much. It all depends upon the weather. November 1<sup>st</sup> for sure. Hopefully we can get done by October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Wilz Pete, do you see any problems here?

Kaminski No. The only money out of this landscaping one, there will be about 4 loads of hardwood chips and fertilizer coming out of it. For fertilizer, I'm going to cut it about in half if it's okay with you guys. Before I always ordered 100 bags and put 7 or 8 bags in each park according to their size. The reason I want to cut back is because it's been so dry and it's going to burn up. Maybe we shouldn't put any on this year. But maybe we should because I'm thinking it'll give it a little boost come spring. Or, I can order it and put it on next spring. But I think you're better doing it in fall.

Schroeder I think the fall. Right before you stop with the parks, put it on. The snow will take care of it. There's enough dew right now that it'll break down. The grass is pretty wet in the morning.

Wilz So because of the dryness and the heat, you're suggesting that we do this in the fall and cut back the application.

Kaminski I think last year we paid about \$22 a bag. Instead of ordering 100 bags, we would order 50. Last year I think we paid about \$1,800 to \$2,200. So maybe we'd spend about \$1,300 to \$1,400.

Wilz I'm in agreement with Rollie that if we can get it done this fall, it really does seem to help with the spring. That stuff greens up so fast when none of the other yards around it are so you know it's that fall application.

Stoltz You're getting that stuff from Jay-Mar, right? That "Greener by the Yard"?

Kaminski Yes. The fall blend is what I always put on.

Wilz It's "Greener by the Yard"?

Kaminski That's what it's called.

Cooper I'm going to write that down.

Kaminski Do you guys want me to put the full application down? I'm just suggesting what I think.

O'Keefe It depends upon the condition of the grass.

Kaminski When Randy was mowing today, he said the grass is brown.

O'Keefe What's going to happen is you'll waste it, it'll wash away. If you put half the application down, try to wait as late as you can.

Stoltz If we get rain in the next 2 weeks, the grass would green up because it would come out of dormancy.

Wilz I guess that's my question, if it's dormant or in some areas, if it's dead, I think most of it is dormant. What happens when you put fertilizer on dormant grass? It just stays there?

Schroeder Well you're improving the root system. It's still alive but not as active.

Mendyke Even if it's half the recommended application, it still does something.

O'Keefe The grass will stay active up until the ground physically freezes.

Hicks So it sounds like a good idea.

O'Keefe You get a sunny day and bang, it'll pop up.

Schroeder The root system should go down deeper while it's going in there because it's not growing on the top. So in the spring that's why you have a much better look to it. It should even choke out some weeds because weeds seem to always grow faster than grass.

Kaminski It's the only thing that grows in this dry weather. Their roots keep going down for water.

Wilz We'll pick that up when we get back to fertilizer. Let's get back to budget. What I had told the budget committee based off of this sheet, I told them that I felt we would come in at year-end at around \$20,250. That we would beat this existing budget by \$2,000.

Kaminski We would?

Wilz That's what I told them. If that needs to change, that's what I'm asking you.

Kaminski I guess I can't answer that until I order my fertilizer.

Schroeder It's probably going to be closer to break even. But if we're at zero budget, that's pretty good.

O'Keefe That's pretty good.

Wilz Yes, it is.

Mendyke Once you do the wood chips and half the fertilizer, maybe there will be a little savings?

Kaminski There will be some. I'm just guessing maybe 4 loads of wood chips and that's about \$440 a load, a 15 yard load. The fertilizer, I'm just going to take a stab at it, maybe it'll be \$1,500.

Wilz Again, the \$7,000 for playground equipment, we know we're either going to spend it yet this year or it's going to be encumbered so it'll become a cost on this.

Kaminski Dave, on the "Sign the Town", we don't use that. Why don't we ask the Town for a little bit more money for next year and put retaining block by that sign by the highway where it says the "Town of Hull". I'm sure we need to keep it in the existing spot. Just take out the plastic timbers and put nice landscape block. Make it look more modern out there. Landscaping blocks aren't cheap. That land there belongs to the Town of Hull.

O'Keefe Is there something going in on that corner just behind the utility shed, in that area? I saw somebody clearing a trail or something.

Amman Right off of Torun Road.

Kaminski There's going to be a house in there. Last year a guy came and asked me where he could put his driveway. Somebody from Rapids, he owns the land and will be sticking a house in there.

Hicks The driveway is on Torun?

O'Keefe Yes. He started clearing the trees out. It's right behind that utility box.

Wilz What I put in for our 2013 proposed budget was the same budget as we had for this year. We're trying to not exceed what our budget was for 2012 so I went with that.

Kaminski You're going to put in \$7,000 for playground equipment again for next year?

Wilz The notes on this one are notes to Jim Kruziki and John. I said that I'm proposing the same budget levels for 2013 as we had in 2012. Equipment purchase will not be much. We will use the additional amounts to improve grounds, cut trails, etc., along with refurbishing old equipment. We might use it all for equipment, we might use a little for equipment but we know if we get the tractor we're talking about doing trails and doing some of these other things.

Kaminski You know with a tractor, we need to buy a rotor tiller, at least \$1,200. We need a smooth drag, all the little attachments cost money.

Wilz The group had talked about taking and refurbishing some of our old equipment, updating and doing some of that. That would come out of there too along with the maintenance. Again, I turned in \$22,249.

Mendyke I'd like to see what all the accessories cost, then after that we could look at refurbishing the old slides or something.

Wilz Yes. Start working on a park, let's get the little stuff done now.

Kaminski There were some people that had marked up that old slide inside Jordan Park. We bought spray paint and everything is all cleaned up. Like I said, going back to that sign, I'd like to see something more modern out there. Maybe we can't do it next year then.

Wilz I'm thinking when we have our first meeting in April and we start talking about what we want to do for the year, that's when we can bring it up.

Kaminski That \$300 (*for Sign the Town*) will not do much.

Wilz I understand.

Kaminski If a guy had \$600, this is what I can get for \$600 worth. \$300 isn't going to buy much.

Schroeder Let's put \$6,000 on the playground equipment and \$1,300 on the "Sign the Town". We can always play with the numbers later.

Wilz I'm going to turn in a revised estimate for next year. I'm going to add \$1,000 on to this.

Kaminski That would make sense.

Wilz I'm going to split it between adding \$500 to the playground equipment and I'll add \$500 on to Sign the Town. If they will cut us an additional thousand, then that helps do these kinds of things.

Kaminski I don't think it would actually cost \$1,000.

Wilz No, I know. But you make a good point. We've had that in our budget and the group has been entrusted over the years, you told the story about come up with something.

Schroeder We're finally coming up with some signage, he should be happy.

Wilz All they can do it turn us down. On that item, I would like to have a motion to approve our discussion and approve our new altered budget for next year.

*Motion was made by Roland Schroeder to approve the budget discussion and the new altered budget for Parks for next year. Motion seconded by Brian Hicks. Motion passed.*

#### **10) Discuss Fall Fertilizer – Pete Kaminski.**

Wilz With the fertilizer, Pete, I think what the group was saying, it sounded like it's reasonable to go half this year. That we want to fertilize but due to the conditions, going all the way might be a little wasteful.

Kaminski I agree. And put it on as late as I possibly can, October 20<sup>th</sup>.

Wilz Back to fertilizer, "Greener by the Yard", you said there is a fall blend?

Kaminski Yes, for root development. I've got a number back there someplace. It's something like 27-10-10. Your nitrogen level is high then whatever those other 2 are, I don't know. I'd have to ask.

Schroeder The nitrogen is what you have to watch because...that's why you do it late with the snow and that, because it will really burn it out, it needs water.

Kaminski I put it on right before I know it will rain.

Schroeder Whenever you have that fall stuff and someone wants to sell you that, make sure you water that a lot after you put that in.

O'Keefe Fall stuff is low in nitrogen.

Schroeder Right, but as dry as we've had it, that's what they're recommending.

O'Keefe That's what you want to worry about, if the grass is doing poorly and you put so much nitrogen into it, what it's going to do is it'll overgrow and outgrow it's capability and it'll kill itself.

Wilz I use the stuff but I don't really know what's in it. I do take into consideration what Rollie said, when I put it down, I pound it in with water.

O'Keefe Some of the chemicals in the fertilizer are there to help with the nitrogen. The plants can't absorb the nitrogen the way it is when you put it down so some of the chemicals in the fertilizer help to convert the nitrogen into a useable form for the plants. That's why they use the hydro--- stuff to make it more readily available. Solid granules, when that stuff starts to break down when you water it, it can't be absorbed readily by the plants. There's a chemical in there to help break that down into a useable form so the plant can take it up. There's a lot of chemistry going on in the bag there.

*Motion made by Dave Wilz to give Pete Kaminski the authority to cut back the fertilizer to 50% and to apply it as late in the season as reasonable. Motion seconded by Maurice Schroeder. Motion passed.*

**11) Set next meeting date. Next Parks Commission meeting will be April 10, 2013.**

Wilz Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 10, 2013.

Kaminski There will be snow on the ground yet, mark my words.

Wilz You know, that's when we met last year. Any other comments? Thank you for another great year. This was an easy Parks Committee this year with not buying equipment.

Schroeder Brian always made that easy.

Wilz Yes, he did. Thank you everybody for your willingness to serve.

**12) Adjournment.** *Meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m. with a motion made by Roland Schroeder and seconded by Brian Hicks. Motion passed.*

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Amman  
Parks Commission Secretary  
Town of Hull, Portage County