

Mission Township Park Committee Meeting November 16, 2020

The meeting was held at Mission Townhall at 10:00 am.

Present: Committee members present were Jim Peterson, Michael Blassey, Chuck Anderson, John Buttweiler, and Dave Baker (via Zoom). Other individuals participating: Bob Steele (via Zoom).

Capital planning projects: To prepare for the December 8, 2020 Township Board meeting at which potential capital projects in the township over the years 2021-25 will be addressed, the committee discussed a number of items/projects. The scope used for this discussion was projects in excess of \$5,000. Potential projects identified and within this scope are pickleball courts, resurfacing the tennis courts and basketball court, new roof on the pavilion, and new playground equipment (TBD). The committee also discussed potential new gates for entrances and repairs needed on the cabling around the park and decided those items should be addressed in annual budgets since they will likely be less than \$5,000. With respect to the posts and cabling, the township currently has a few old power company posts that can be used to replace broken posts and could potentially use cable on the south side of the park entrance sign to patch frayed cable (cabling behind the entrance may not be needed). The committee also discussed the parking lot and potential repairs or resurfacing. Due to the nature of that work, it would make sense to coordinate discussions of any potential work with the Roads Committee. Another option is to leave the lot as-is and when it starts to break up significantly remove the asphalt and resurface with Class V.

Potential grant applications: All committee members will look for potential grant opportunities. J. Peterson will contact the city of Aitkin to see if they received any grants for their pickleball courts and other items that were completed over the past two years. It was also noted again the city of Crosslake did not receive any grants for their pickleball and basketball project that was completed earlier this year even though they applied for several. When the tennis courts are to be resurfaced, additional grants will be pursued as in other years.

Fall maintenance: C. Anderson and M. Blassey have completed most of the items to prepare for winter. M. Blassey discussed the ski trails and the hope the trails are used only by skiers and not walkers or snowshoers to keep the trails in great ski conditions. Due to the early snow, M. Blassey did not have a chance to create a snowshoe trail. Various tree trimming will be completed weather permitting.

Park information for website: M. Blassey will submit a writeup/description of park amenities to Jon Auge for the new website. The committee is still trying to obtain information on the history of the park and that will likely be added later.