

# **Minutes** Park & Rec Meeting Platt Park – Back Shelter Monday September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - 5:15 PM

**Park and Recreation** 

www.oelweinparks.org

### Call to Order: 5:21pm

Roll Call: Bouska, Gearhart, Johnson, Jorgensen, Garrigus, Meska, Stasi

Attending: Bouska, Johnson, Jorgensen, Garrigus, Stasi, Gearhart @ 5:28

Absent: Meska

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Consideration of a motion approving the minutes of the August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024, meeting:

Motion:	Jorgensen	2 <sup>nd</sup> :	Stasi
Aye:	All	Nay:	None

Citizen Comments: None

Youth Sports Association: Postponed until next meeting

### Parks / Cemetery Updates:

Johnson stated this past month that they wrapped up the season for the aquatic center with the dog dip for the final two hours. The staff did a great job this season keeping everyone safe and teaching hundreds of swimming lessons. The department spent time that week of closure taking down shade canopies, covering slides and boards. Russ took all the eyeballs out and floor diffusers and installed the plugs. The gas was shut off and Johnson spent a lot of time winterizing the pump room and heater as we have some new procedures to figure out with the new system. The park employees installed the Latham memorial bench at Levin Park this week as they had already poured the concrete foundation. The employees installed signage at Depot Park that Johnson created so police can enforce keeping people out after hours.

This month the employees have been mowing what is needed as the weather has turned hot and dry. On Monday and Tuesday Aug. 26/27, as a safety measure, the employees worked until noon and went home as the heat index rose into the 100's. The last of the memorial benches was resurfaced this week in Redgate Park as the materials were finally delivered. The park employees and Johnson helped at the wellness center removing old furniture that the hospital left behind in the rehab room. Johnson stated they moved some of the cabinets to the pool area that they can reuse for the concession area. Johnson stated that over a weekend someone ran over a light pole at City Park, so Johnson went out Saturday morning after the PD called to turn the power off then they removed the pole and started looking into replacement quotes the next week. At Platt Park, the park department has been removing some large silver maples. The large silver maple by the playground equipment had eight trunks that came out of the base that was rotten. Once they safely dropped the last of that tree, they removed the third and final trunk of another large silver maple in the back of the park that had a rotten base as well. Once these trees were dropped and cleaned up, they moved up to the pool area where they have several

smaller locust trees that need to be removed that did not make the season. At the cemetery employees moved an infant for the Stasi family. On a Wednesday, Joshua and Nate attended a de-escalation presentation by the police. Johnson created and sent out the agenda for the tree board meeting on Tuesday evening where they talked about their upcoming tree plantings. Johnson met with a contractor about pricing windows for the park shop, which is a CIP project for this year that we would like to complete before winter sets in. Cemetery employees have been working on cleaning the waterway at Woodlawn that silts in. Johnson had his assistant work on signage along Hillside drive as we are working on connecting trail segments.

This year, the park employees have been concentrating their efforts on removing troublesome trees as they have concentrated on removing ash trees for the past three years. On Thursday, they removed a tree that had uprooted along the west trail and was leaning over the trail area. On Friday, the park employees took to City Park where they dropped a dead oak tree that was next to the motel on the east side of the park. Another tree that was next to the main shelter was removed as it had hollowed out in the trunk. In the afternoon they removed a tree on the west side of the park that was dead. Johnson has started laying out tree locations for our event for the following Friday as AmeriCorps is sending people for the day. Thursday, Johnson had a Teams meeting with the AmeriCorps representative to go over the project and make sure everything was ready for the next Friday. On the first Tuesday evening of the month, the tree board met at the park shop as we talked about our upcoming tree plantings and plans. Nate did some trimming and spraying around the welcome signs as the park employees trimmed up the ditch on 150 in front of the welcome sign. The cemetery employees are busy removing a few remaining dead trees on the north side of the cemetery and trimming up a few of the lower hanging branches. At the pool, employees continue their winterization efforts bringing items back to the shop. Johnson placed an article in the paper and posted it on Facebook notifying people to place concrete foundation orders for headstones at Woodlawn. The employees are going around watering newly planted trees as needed as the dry water persists. The campground had a great Labor Day weekend as the paper published an article for us. The trails, cemetery and skate park were swept like usual. Johnson stated that the park employees replaced two slides at the City Park main playground equipment area that was a CIP item this past year. Johnson stated that the old slides we worn out being in the sun, showing stress cracks and that they had both been repaired by a plastic welder in recent years to keep them viable until the slides could be replaced.

### **Tree Planting Updates:**

Johnson stated that a few of the tree board volunteers, Jeff and Lou Ann Milks plus John Fox came in on Thursday and helped remove the trees from the gravel bed that Greg Bryan generously donated the money to the city to construct. The board members were pleasantly surprised at how the root systems on the trees grew over the summer. The tree roots were trimmed for planting on the following Friday and placed in barrels full of water overnight. Friday morning, Johnson gave a PowerPoint presentation to the two groups of AmeriCorps teams that Johnson lined up for this project at city hall. Johnson reviewed the entire project, including maps with points of interest that they might need to know about for any problems that might arise, that didn't happen. Johnson then brought the volunteers to Woodlawn cemetery where the employees had brought out all the supplies for the planting. The holes were already prepared as the ground was extremely hard due to the recently dry conditions. The department had all the supplies ready for the volunteers so that the planting event went smoothly. Johnson had three board members, Jeff Milks, John Fox and Terry Scherbring attend. There were 16 AmeriCorps members there to help with their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary that day. Bri Hull from Trees Forever was there to help with the planting and gave a great planting demonstration along with Jeff Milks. The park and cemetery employees were there to help with the planting and watered the trees as well. The project included planting 5 trees in Redgate back by the trail head to help prevent vehicles driving around the stones and driving where they should not be. The AmeriCorps had their follow-up meeting after the project was completed at the shelter in Redgate where Johnson reviewed the project with them and thanked them for their service. Johnson stated that this was a great project that was due to the generosity of Greg Bryan and that the gravel bed is a great long-term investment for the city to purchase more bare root trees in the future.

Johnson stated that the tree board also learned this past month that they were awarded a \$2,500 grant through the DNR's "Tree's for Kids" grant to plant 22 trees in Wings Park on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Johnson stated that that is a Wednesday as the kids have an early out that day and Johnson had some of the pool kids lined up to help with the planting. Johnson stated that he picked out a variety of tree species to plant that day that he has lined up with both Manske's Corner Market and Cannon's Greenhouse. Johnson stated that they will conduct their Trees Forever planting tentatively on October 16<sup>th</sup>. Johnson contacted Manske's Corner Market and Cannons Greenhouse this week to ensure that they have the trees lined up for our Trees Forever planting next month. Johnson stated that the tree board members have been scouting out locations to plant trees and talking with homeowners about planting in the street boulevard in front of their homes. Johnson stated that this planting will start at 8am like usual and invited all board members to please join either planting if available.

Johnson provided the board with trail counts, campground totals, cemetery totals, shelter reservation totals and a rundown of projects completed and upcoming projects.

**Board Member Updates:** Gearhart brought up a proposed batting facility. Concerns with the location of the facility were discussed as the board members want to make sure the younger rec kids get a fair share of using it.

Adjournment: 5:42pm

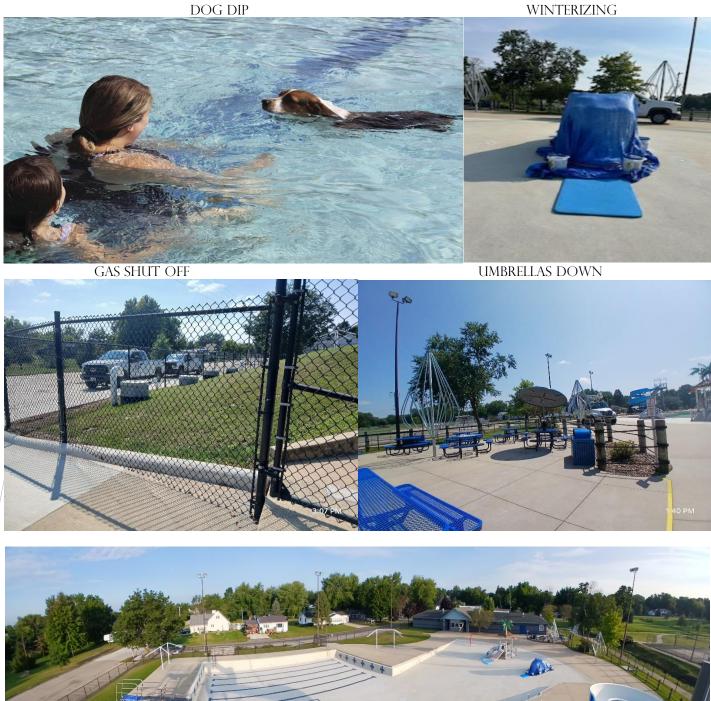
Next Meeting: October 21st, 2024

Additional Information: None

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodation for city meetings should notify city hall at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at 319-283-5440.



# Park and Cemetery Update:



7:32 AM







WELLNESS CENTER

LIGHT POLE





## POOL TREE REMOVAL

PLATT PARK TREES



PLATT PARK TREES

## CLEANING WATERWAY

TRAILS



TREE REMOVAL





## TREE REMOVAL



TREE PLANTING PREP





CLEANING

TRIMMING

WINTERIZING







OElWEI

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Energy













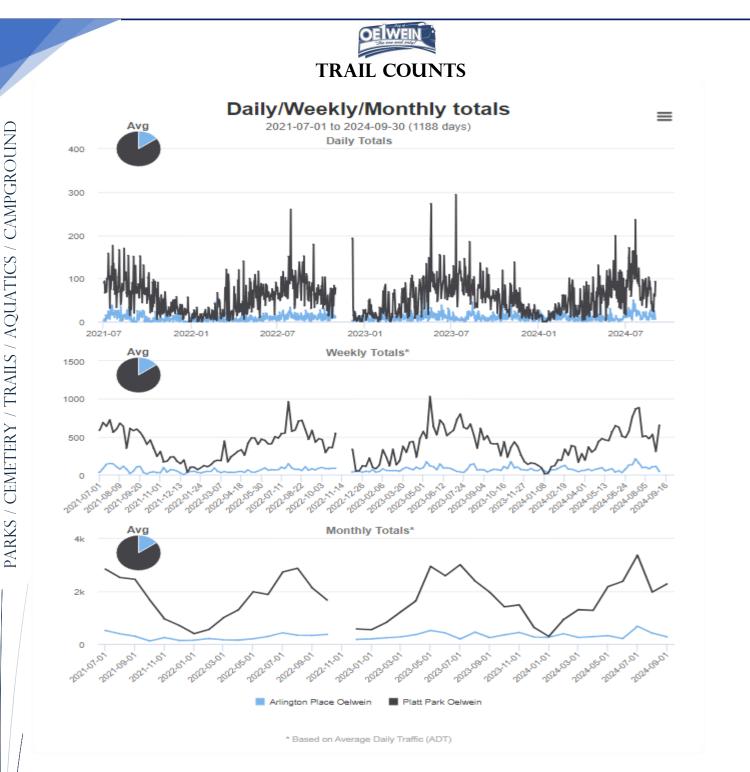






7:54 AM





### Master Summary Download as X Excel SV

Year	Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Мау	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	ADT <sup>†</sup>	ADT <sup>†</sup> x365	Days with data
2021	Arlington Place Oelwein							512*	388	294	115	242	134	9.115	3,327	183
	Platt Park Oelwein							2,845*	2,523	2,458	1,675	950	704	60.454	22,066	183
2022	Arlington Place Oelwein	146	207	158	148	199	290	426	332	327	362		173*	8.303	3,031	330
	Platt Park Oelwein	394	548	1,002	1,297	1,984	1,877	2,736	2,877	2,127	1,672		572*	51.497	18,796	330
2023	Arlington Place Oelwein	193	235	274	356	510	421	190	451	241	347	441	266	10.753	3,925	365
	Platt Park Oelwein	543	816	1,229	1,635	2,948	2,592	3,013	2,399	1,969	1,411	1,485	628	56.625	20,668	365
2024	Arlington Place Oelwein	254	389	247	279	319	208	673	414	270*				11.386	4,167	246
	Platt Park Oelwein	287	930	1,305	1,276	2,181	2,378	3,373	1,972	2,280*				56.317	20,612	246

ADT<sup>†</sup> = Average Daily Traffic

\* = based upon that month's ADT Learn more Indicates months with less than 6 days of data.

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### City of Oelwein Camping Registration Comparison

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
March						9			9					COVID				
April	34	7	7	55	1	68		12	36	29	20	41	25		2	156	238	126
May	239	267	273	224	289	403	419	420	246	353	354	586	1365	128	392	464	840	386
June	332	369	585	494	633	489	455	590	404	493	695	723	396	289	474	407	464	496
July	349	404	285	379	421	613	782	444	496	336	628	472	504	220	414	347	762	610
August	240	380	287	459	478	403	448	358	561	578	950	767	473	236	432	613	770	503
September	384	457	235	231	309	429	623	477	420	407	512	207	368	123	408	336	540	403
October	103	109	69	64	106	149	125	61	227	247	285	82	57	52	44	67	148	
November						28	9	9	14	10	30							
December						21					15							
Occupancy Rate	27%	31%	28%	30%	36%	42%	46%	39%	39%	39%	56%	46%	51%	17%	34%	38%	60%	40
TOTALS	1681	1993	1741	1906	2237	2612	2861	2371	2413	2450	3479	2878	3188	1048	2166	2390	3762	2524

# Woodlawn Cemetery

- 28 full burials
- 9 cremations
- 1 infant transfer

# **Shelter Reservations**

> 63



# **DAILY ACTIVITIES**

- CLEAN/ORGANIZE SHOP AREAS
- ➢ PICK UP DOWNTOWN AREAS
- ➢ MAINTAINING PARK, CEMETERIES
- MAINTENANCE ON EQUIPMENT
- ➤ SAFETY MEETINGS
- ► SWEEPING TRAILS/STREETS/SKATE PARK

# **PROGRESS ON PROJECTS**

- ➢ WEBSITE UPDATING
- ► TRAIL EASEMENTS/GRANTS
- ➢ PARK AND REC MASTER PLAN
- ► TRAIL MAINTENANCE
- ➢ GRINDING STUMPS
- ➢ CIVICREC WORK
- TREES FOR KIDS GRANT AWARDED
  WOODLAWN WATERWAY CLEANED
  FOUNDATION AD PLACED
  PLAYGROUND SLIDES CITY PARK
- ➢ PLAYGROUND MAINTENANCE

- ➢ MEET WITH CONTRACTORS
- ▶ RETRIEVE & UPLOAD TRAIL COUNT DATA
- ➤ WOODLAWN BURIALS
- ➢ PARK MAINTENANCE
- ➢ GRANT WORK

- ➢ POOL FACILITY CLOSED
- ➢ REAP GRANT SUBMITTED
- ➢ DEAD TREE REMOVAL
- ▶ LATHAM MEMORIAL BENCH INSTALLED
- ► AMERICORPS EVENT PREPARATIONS
- ➢ GRAVEL BED TREE PLANTING COMPLETED

# **NEXT MONTH AND FUTURE PROJECTS**

- ➢ REPURPOSE OLD WINGS BRIDGE
- ► GRANT WRITING
- $\succ$  TRAIL SEGMENT 2
- ► TRAIL SEGMENTS 4/5 ALIGNMENT
- ➢ PAINT ACCENT BRICK − POOL
- ► REMOVE PRIMITIVE AT REDGATE
- ➢ PLANT TREES IN CHRYSLER PARK
- BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS
- ► FINISH WINTERIZING POOL

- ➤ TREES FOREVER TREE PLANTING
- ➤ TREES KIDS TREE PLANTING
- ➢ FLAGPOLE DIAMOND
- ➤ TRIM DOWNTOWN FOR WINTER
- ➢ FOUNDATIONS
- ➢ WINTERIZE CAMPGROUND
- ➢ BUDGET AND FEES
- ➢ PIRILLO, LAU, 81' BENCH INSTALL

JOSHUA JOHNSON MA OELWEIN PARK SUPERINTENDENT 

