

MIDLAND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 3, 2023  
MIDLAND CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
7:00 P.M.

APPROVED MINUTES

- 1) Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chairperson Neil Rankin.

\*\*Pledge of Allegiance\*\*

- 2) Roll Call:

- a. MEMBERS PRESENT: Bartle, Billotti, McCoy, Montalbano, Rankin, Varela
- b. MEMBERS ABSENT: Carney, Steidemann
- c. OTHERS PRESENT: Marcie Post, Assistant Director of Public Services

- 3) Minutes of February 7, 2023: Montalbano motioned, McCoy seconded to receive minutes of the meeting of February 7, 2023. Motion passed 6-0.

- 4) Call to Audience: None

- 5) Reimagine the Riverfront design proposal: Murphy shared a proposed conceptual design for redevelopment of the riverfront that includes the current Farmers Market structure, spraypark, Rail Trail and canoe/kayak launch. Murphy reported that the riverfront redevelopment is part of the Downtown Development Authority's strategic planning for this year and the plan was developed based on stakeholder and public input. Murphy showed the conceptual design and discussed the various details of the proposal. Murphy stated that the project is conceptual at this time and there is no funding in place yet. Murphy asked for a motion of support for the plan that will now move to City Council for review. A motion of support for the conceptual design proposal was made by Varela and seconded by Montalbano. The motion passed 6-0.

- 6) Personal Lift for Miracle Field restroom: Murphy reported that the City received a grant for \$10,000 from the Access to Community fund at the Midland Area Community Foundation for the installation of a personal lift in one of the restrooms at the Miracle Field. Murphy shared a picture of the lift and explained that patrons provide their own sanitary sling that hooks to the lift to assist them out of their mobility device and onto the changing table or toilet.

- 7) mParks Recreation Leadership award: Murphy recognized Assistant Director of Public Services Marcie Post for being the 2023 recipient of the Michigan Recreation and Parks Association's Recreation Leadership Award. Post also received the new leader award at the beginning of her career in municipal recreation.

- 8) Plymouth Pool update: Murphy reported that the City did not receive the Spark grant from the State of Michigan for the repairs needed at Plymouth Pool. Murphy shared that City Council approved \$2.5MM for the work in the FY2023/24 budget. To date, the City has hired WTA Architect of Saginaw to create the design and the bid specifications for the work which includes: replace gutter and filtration system, underground plumbing repairs, crack repair and resurface with marcite, and installation of handrails in the zero depth entry. Murphy is hoping

to receive bids later this summer and schedule the work to begin once the pool closes at Labor Day.

9) Project Reports

- a. **Poseyville Riverfront Restoration:** Murphy shared an updated conceptual design for the pedestrian walkway along with the color that was chosen. The bridge is currently under production and Murphy hopes to see components of the bridge arriving this summer for a fall installation.
- b. **Stratford canoe/kayak launch:** Murphy shared that the project will be done with the Department of Public Works doing the site work and grading, and the City's concrete contractor pouring the foundations and sidewalks. Once this work is done, the Parks Department will install the canoe/kayak launch. Murphy hopes the work will begin in May and be completed by mid-June. Wet weather has delayed the work.
- c. **Grove Park restroom:** Murphy shared that the bid package is complete and under review by the City's purchasing department. Murphy's goal is to award a contract by the end of June with a summer/fall construction timeline.
- d. **Upper Emerson riverfront:** Murphy shared an updated conceptual design for the project that shows the location for the new walkways, areas for swing seats along the walkway, the waterfront plazas on either side of the confluence with Sturgeon Creek and the connections to the Rail Trail. Murphy said the bridge on the Rail Trail will get a new concrete deck and handrails that match the railing on the initial upstream phase of the project. Murphy is hoping to start construction this fall.

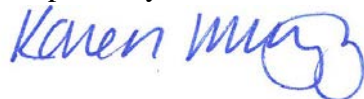
10) Recreation Update: Post provided an update on Miracle League with opening day on April 29. There are 77 athletes and six teams this year. Post is in need of buddies for May 6, June 3 and June 10. Post shared that Plymouth Pool planning is beginning for the season. Swim lesson registration will start May 3. The swim lesson program is new this year with shorter sessions with parents welcomed on deck and an emphasis on safety and skills-based curriculum. Post is again offering an adult swim on Saturday mornings for July and August, and will be adding an adaptive swim session as well. Post announced that Pitch, Hit and Run will occur Saturday, May 6 at Dow Diamond with 80 participants registered. Post shared the following program updates: girls and adult softball seasons are underway, May 8 is the Make Midland Beautiful program at City Council, June 5 is the start date for beach volleyball and Tunes by the Tridge kicks off on June 8.

11) Old Business : None

12) New Business: None

13) Adjourn: Motioned by McCoy, seconded by Billotti to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen Murphy  
Director of Public Services