



CITY OF  
LAWRENCE  
**PARKS AND  
RECREATION**

City of Lawrence Board of Parks and Recreation – Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, July 10, 2024 – 5:30 pm  
Lawrence Government Center Public Assembly Room

**Members present:** Jeff Vest, Helen Taylor, Karen Taylor, Crystal Puckett and Tom Burns

**Staff:** Eric Martin, Jami Weirich and Dina Gee

**Guest:** Casper Jones, Gretchen Meyer and Liz Masur

**Meeting** was called to order by Jeff Vest at 5:30 pm.

**Minutes:**

Minutes of the May 8, 2024 meeting were distributed for review and clarification. Jeff Vest entertained a motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Motion was made by Tom Burns to accept the minutes, seconded by Helen Taylor. Motion carried 5-0.

**Board Comments:** Tom Burns asked if all the holes were filled at the Bark Park. Eric stated the holes had been filled. Tom stated again that the Community Park parking lot needed to be redone.

**Directors Report:** Eric informed the Board that the budget is due Friday. He introduced Jami Weirich the City Event coordinator to the Board. Jami updated the Board on the new events that she is working on.

**Old Business: - None**

**New Business: -**

**A) Personnel**

Jeff announced that RJ (Ronnie) Gee is retiring this Friday after nearly 40 years of working for the City. There is going to be a little send off gathering at the Park's Maintenance Garage Friday from 1-3 if anyone wants to stop by. Eric stated that Bob Conner will be the new Maintenance Director. Eric asked the Board to approve the promotion with pay and asked for all park employees to be given a \$2 per hour pay increase. Jeff entertained a motion to approve the promotion of Bob Conner with pay increase and the pay increases for the remaining full time park employees. Motion was made by Crystal Puckett to accept the promotion and pay increases, seconded by Tom Burns. Motion carried 5-0.

**B) Casper Jones – Skate Park Initiative**

Casper addressed the Board as he would be the Skate Park Advocate and asked about bringing in local and big name artists for painting over the graffiti with murals to beautify the park. Eric will sit down with them and see what murals and plans they have.

**C) Special Usage Agreement – Cathedral Girls Soccer (Pickleball Courts)**

The Cathedral Girls Soccer would like to rent all 8 pickleball courts on July 23, 2024 from 10:30am - 12:30pm for a team building exercise in the amount of \$128. Tom Burns entertained a motion to enter into a contract with Cathedral Girls Soccer for the rental of 8 pickleball courts on July 23, 2024. Motion was made by Helen Taylor to accept the contract, seconded by Karen Taylor. Motion carried 4-0.

**D) United Consulting – Crosswalk Design at 63<sup>rd</sup> and Lee Road**

Gretchen and Eric proposed to add a 14' crosswalk at the south side of 63<sup>rd</sup> and Lee Road with extra money from the Lee Road Trail grant. The cost would be around \$75,000. Tom Burns entertained a

motion to accept the change order on the grant with a cross walk. Motion was made by Helen Taylor to accept the change order, seconded by Crystal Puckett. Motion carried 4-0.

**Public Comments:** Liz Masur expressed how concerned she with the spraying of t-zone for weeds at the Bark Park. Jeff suggested that Eric, Liz and himself sit down and come up with a policy on spraying.

**Adjournment:** Tom Burns adjourned the meeting at 6:36. Jeff left the meeting early.

Secretary Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_