

CITY OF SCOTTSBLUFF, NEBRASKA
Scottsbluff City Hall Council Chambers
2525 Circle Drive, Scottsbluff, NE 69361
PARK, CEMETERY, AND TREE BOARD



Wednesday, June 11, 2025

6:00 PM

Welcome and Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Megan at 6:00 PM

Nebraska Open Meetings Act: For all interested parties, a copy of the Nebraska Open Meeting Act is posted on the bulletin board at the south wall of the Council Chambers.

Roll Call: Carolyn, Megan, and Eugene Present. Dan, Ashlee, Larry, James Absent. City staff present Matt, Trevor, and Tevia.

Notice of changes in the agenda by the Park Board President: no changes

Citizens with business not scheduled on the agenda: none

Minutes: tabled to next meeting, no quorum

Financial Reports: Larry was absent, no financial reports given

Park and Cemetery Updates:

Matt

- Westmoor Park – Surfacing to begin this week and will last 10 days. Work around the courts has been completed with concrete improvements and shade structure. Once surfacing is done, nets will be installed and project will be completed.
- Veterans Park – New features were installed on the splashpad, it is up and running. Looks great. Bathroom renovation is moving forward; plumbing issues have caused a delay. New valves and parts have been ordered to complete the project. Concrete pad for the new mini-pitch system should be started in the next couple of weeks. Once that is done, it will need to sit for about 30 days before pitch and surfacing can be installed. Carolyn asked about the ditch on the north side of the park. I did find out that it is no longer in use and will call the contact I found to discuss the city filling in the ditch and taking over the maintenance.
- 18th Street Plaza – Working on posts/poles for the new string lights that have been purchased. Hope to get more info back on these soon. Shade structures/options are being looked at again. Having trouble picturing a large structure placed in the middle of the plaza. Now looking at umbrella type structures. They would be permanent structures, but the shade fabric can be removed in the winter and replaced when needed. Would look at 2 or 3 structures placed in different spots in the plaza. Will know more once estimates are received.
- Lacy Park - All lights were worked on and are operational.

- School Admin Building – have walked thru the space a couple of times to get a better idea of the use of the space and where the bathrooms might work. Also talked with the school on items they would leave in the building. Megan was hired as a consultant to the city engineer to look at plans, design options, and use ideas.
- Cemetery – Submitted the Urban & Community Forestry Grant to help with tree pruning, removal, purchases, and labor to install. Total of grant request was \$225,000 for a 3-year project. Will hear back in May if awarded or not.

Trevor

- Seasonals have been hired, have a total of 9. Have a mix of part-time and full-time.
- Two main lines, at Landers, that had leaks have been repaired.
- Overseeded all of Landers, outfields at Lacy and Kiwanis playground area at Riverside.
- Been keeping up with mowing and string trimming. Done a lot of string trimming at Riverside
- Carolyn asked about trees lost in the storm. There were two cottonwoods in Riverside Park and 4 trees down in Pioneer Park.
- Megan asked about the Rotary trees that were planted on the north side of the highway by the pedestrian bridge. We will take a look at them, but they do have drip running to them and it is operational.
- Replacement trees will be going back in where we have lost trees due to storm damage. Done a lot of planting over the past year and will do more this year.

Tevia

- Arbor Day events went well with Lincoln Heights 3rd graders. They watched/helped with a tree planting and then watched the Lorax at the Midwest Theatre. NRD helped present to the high school students in their greenhouse. Gave them seedlings to grow and then plant or donate back to us.
- Dog Jog – Had a cold day, but still a pretty good turnout. Donated \$500 to PHS. Will get a video done and posted to the Facebook page.
- Weekend Events list done each week. Discussed a yearly calendar, tough to do with all the changes and last-minute events.
- Facebook growth has been good since taking it over.
- Looking at a Husker party in the Plaza
- Will host a kickball tournament at the Beef, Beans, Bluegrass Festival.
- Kite Festival will be October 11-12 at Landers. Have large kites that are flown, kids can fly kites, kite building, etc.
- Date Night Movie in the Plaza. Working on getting Paradigm to be the food vendor and drink vendor. Haven't heard back from them, so will explore other options. Acai bowl

vendor is also being looked at. Board asked if tickets should be sold ahead of time to help the food vendor prepare.

Other Business:

Movie screen was set up today, it is all good. Drinks will be purchased by the Parks Dept. and Eugene will bring popcorn. Will meet at 7:30pm to setup.

Urban & Community Forestry Grant – We were awarded the grant for the Cemetery Tree Canopy Renewal project. The grant is for \$225,110 and will span 3 years. Paperwork and administrative items just started and take anywhere from 1-3 months to complete. Project can't start until these items are completed.

Carolyn talked about the Excellence in Service award that was presented to Vanessa Woolsey for her instrumental work done at Westmoor Pool. Vanessa does an excellent job getting the pool ready to open, hiring staff, and keeping it operational all season.

New Business:

Trees for Nebraska Towns – This is the 10 free trees grant. Matt asked if the Board would like to apply for this grant or have the Parks Dept. apply. The Board didn't have a quorum, so this item will be voted on by email at a later date. Matt will work on the grant application and have the Board submit on behalf of the Parks Dept.

Matt discussed some items around Memorial Trees and Benches. Have had a few strange requests and provided some very small trees to plant as memorial trees. Matt will be working on putting together guidelines on these items and will talk with other towns on how they handle it. Megan talked about having a master plan for the pathway that would include memorial bench location options. This would help with placing memorial benches.

Schedule Next Meeting: Meeting will be August 13, 2025

Adjournment: meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM