

**PARKS & CEMETERY BOARD
CITY OF NORTON
January 19, 2022**

Called to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Zita at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, January 19, 2022- Council Chambers (Live Streaming on YouTube)

ROLL CALL... Neva Gibson, Rick Witwer, Kaitlin Witzberger and Bob Fritz

EXCUSED: Ruth Stimac,

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Mike Zita and Charlotte Whipkey

PUBLIC SPEAKING: Ms. Mullins

OLD BUSINESS: Park Benches, Christmas in the Park and Park Tours

NEW BUSINESS: Members Comments, Adopt-A-Spot and Green up Day

Ms. Gibson opened the meeting at 6:00pm.

Mr. Gibson started out with Old Business. First item we have for discussion is the park benches. I have the information that Ms. Szittai provided for Bright Idea Shops. Do you want is to give name to people interested or will it go through the city? I sent an email to the gentleman and he got back to me really fast and I thought the prices for a composite bench and engraved wasn't too bad.

Mayor Zita- Yes we have no problem with using Bright Ideas Shop and residents going directly through them. If they need information we will have it and will also be putting the flyer Ben did for the city on our city website.

Mayor Zita- Christmas in the Park went great and looked beautiful. Every year it just gets better and better.

Ms. Gibson- I agree. Everything turned out really nice.

Mr. Fritz- Next year we are doing a "Park Board" tree.

Ms. Gibson- Yes. We will have more time to get it together for the upcoming year.

Mayor Zita- Park Tours I would like if the Board would hold off until April or so to do those, reason I say this is that way our Service Department will have time to get to parks to spruce

things up after the winter months and plowing season. You are more than welcome to go on your own and take notes if you see something that needs addressed though. Just wanted to give them some time to go over everything before we start making a list of things that need taken care of.

Ms. Gibson- Moving on to Adopt-A-Spot. Shannon what do you need us to do?

Mayor Zita- I was hoping that we can have the Park Board be more hands on with it this year like they were in the past. We can use meetings as a “work session” to get letters out and everything together for Adopt-A-Spot and Green up Day. We got a late start this past year with COVID and not knowing exactly how we were going to handle it. Green up Day will be April 23rd and rain date of April 30th.

Ms. Gibson- I would like the center to be done by Nikki at Springtime Flowers along with the Planters on corners.

Mayor Zita- Yes, we talked about that and doing it that way so that we can give them both the opportunity to be a part of planting in the city.

Ms. Gibson- under New Business do we have any plans on having concerts down at the new stage?

Mayor Zita- Yes. We will be having concerts in June, July and August. We will advertise as we get closer and keep you all informed.

Ms. Gibson- Comments from the audience.

Ms. Mullins- I have a few comments. The online #2 survey isn't available on website any longer and do we have an update on that?

Mayor Zita- We will check that. It may have timed out and I will touch base with Jeremy from OHM to see where we are with that.

Ms. Mullins- In regards to our grants we discussed at last meeting and who would write the grants for the cemeteries. I know if it's not specifically done to their criteria they bounce them back. Why is the board which is a recommending board or an advisory board being saddled with that when we have an administrator who is talented with obtaining grants, why isn't the information turned over to him and allow him to do his magic. Also, one last question. I would like to know why the city designated certain areas of the park for paid parking for events. I feel that the elderly or handicap should be able to obtain the closer spots and not have to pay to do so.

Mayor Zita- I think what happened was we were hearing that there would be so many coming out and we felt we needed help. The youth teams offered to help and asked if they could charge and use towards their fundraiser. We have discussed this and we are looking to have a designated

area for handicap and elderly. It was our first year with concerts so it will be a work in progress and we will work out the kinks.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES: 8-25-21 and 11-17-21

Ms. Gibson- do we have any further questions. Being none we can move on to approval of the 2 sets of minutes for tonight.

Mr. Fritz made motion to approve minutes and Mr. Witwer seconded the motion.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business coming before the Board, Ms. Gibson moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:34 PM and Mr. Fritz seconded the motion. None opposed.



**Park & Cemetery Board Chairperson
or Vice-Chairperson**



**Park & Cemetery Board Vice-Chairperson
or Member**

2/16/22
Date