

PARK BOARD

July 14, 2025

The July 14, 2025 Park Board meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers by Jon Blackburn, Acting Chairperson. Park Board members present were Jon Blackburn and Dean Leonard. Jennifer Banta, Kate Niederkohr, Erin Smith, and Bill Sturgeon were absent.

Others present included: Kyle McColly, Mayor; Laura Wines, Pool Co-Manager; Janeen Heilman, Pool Co-Manager; Riley Fox, Wyandot County Developmental Disabilities; Brian Hemminger, Daily Chief Union; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The minutes of the June 9, 2025 Park Board meeting, having been mailed to each Park Board member, were approved as received.

Miss Riley Fox addressed the Park Board indicating that Wyandot County Developmental Disabilities would like to work with the City again this year with the Project LIFE Transition Services which helps interns develop skills that will assist their transition to adulthood while under the supervision of a Project LIFE skills trainer. Miss Fox suggested a potential job rotation with the Parks Department from August 25, 2025 to Thursday, November 6, 2025, Monday thru Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. It was noted that due to a lack of quorum, this request should be presented and addressed by the Park Board at their August 11, 2025 meeting.

Mrs. Laura Wines and Mrs. Janeen Heilman, Pool Co-Managers, addressed the Park Board indicating that the swimming pool has had a successful season so far this year and there has been great success with the free pool passes that have been sponsored by various local businesses. Park Board members commented that they like the posts on Facebook social media introducing the members of the staff. Mayor McColly inquired about the planned hours of operation of the swimming pool in August 2025. Mrs. Wines indicated that over half of the pool staff are college students and college classes will begin in August and many of the remaining members of the staff participate in fall sports or are members of the band with practices and band camp to begin in early August 2025. Mrs. Wines stated that coverage at the pool from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. will work out but she is unsure about the coverage from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., but they will work out the scheduling.

Mayor McColly reported on the following on behalf of Mr. Keith Niederkohr, Parks Manager:

- Road repairs in Harrison Smith Park, as paid for by a \$15,000.00 donation from the Winter Fantasy of Lights, have been completed.
- Compassionate Friends will be holding a ceremony in Bicentennial Park on Thursday, July 17, 2025 beginning at 7:30 p.m. to dedicate a bench located in the park.
- Supplies are being ordered for the storm water portion of the new playground equipment installation project in Bicentennial Park, with this portion of the project to be completed next week.
- A letter of resignation was received from Mr. Shawn Lawhead, seasonal part-time Parks Department employee.
- Mr. Niederkohr would like to hire a summer help employee to replace Mr. Lawhead. A special Park Board will be scheduled to address this hiring.

There being no quorum, the Acting Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned.

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Jon Blackburn, Acting Chairperson