

PARK BOARD

December 8, 2025

The December 8, 2025 Park Board meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers by Kate Niederkohr, Chairperson. Park Board members present were Jon Blackburn, Kate Niederkohr, and Bill Sturgeon. Jennifer Banta, Dean Leonard, and Erin Smith were absent.

Others present included: Kyle McColly, Mayor; Natalie Mouser, Acting Parks Manager; Stephanie Hessey, Human Resource Coordinator; John Walker; Brian Hemminger, Daily Chief Union; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The minutes of the November 10, 2025 Park Board meeting, having been mailed to each Park Board member, were approved as received.

Mrs. Natalie Mouser reported that Parks Department employees have worked to prepare Harrison Smith Park for the Winter Fantasy of Lights (WFOL) including removing the fallen leaves, hanging lights, and brushing snow from the roadways.

Mrs. Mouser also reported that the City's fall tree order was delivered recently and the nineteen (19) trees ordered will be planted soon including trees for the parks and residential tree lawns that the Parks Department employees will be planting; and trees for the downtown area that will be planted by Bill Sowers Tree Service. Mrs. Mouser indicated that there are trees in the downtown area that have to be removed prior to the new trees being planted and the Parks Department employees will be addressing the tree removals to take place as close as possible to the planting of the new trees as all of the existing trees are decorated with lights for the Christmas holiday.

Mrs. Mouser further reported that Parks Department employees plowed snow in the downtown area, in the alleyways throughout the City, and in the parks following recent snowfalls.

It was noted that the WFOL is currently taking place in Harrison Smith Park and there have been no issues.

A letter of request was presented from the Wyandot County Humane Society to hold the their annual Pawzfest in Harrison Smith Park on Sunday, June 7, 2026 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and utilize the white shelter house in conjunction with the event. Park Board members voiced no objections to this request.

Mayor McColly thanked the Parks Department employees for plowing snow and for their assistance with blocking intersections during the Home for the Holidays parade that took place on Saturday, December 6, 2025.

Mr. Blackburn also thanked the Parks Department employees for clearing the snow from the sidewalk in front of the Wyandot County Museum before an event that was held there.

A motion was made by Mr. Blackburn, seconded by Mr. Sturgeon, to enter into an executive session to review employment applications. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried. Upon completion of the executive session, the Park Board reconvened into regular session.

Due to a lack of quorum, the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned.

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Kate Niederkohr, Chairperson