

**Town of Auburn
Parks and Recreation Commission
August 2, 2022
6:00 pm
Auburn Town Hall**

Commissioners Present: Zach Eaton, Chairman; Margie McEvoy, Vice Chairman; Jennifer Strabone; Pat Kelly; Dave Oliveira; Mary Royer; Tom Carroll, Board of Selectmen Representative

Others Present: Amy Lachance, P&R Coordinator

Softball lights update- Zach talked with Tom Skeffington, and it may be another 2 weeks until he is able to come out to install. Poles have already been dropped off. Lavasseur has been tough to reach for the electrical. Zach will contact someone else if they are not available when they need them.

2023 Parks and Recreation Operating Budget- The following is the proposed budget for 2023....

01-4520-0-001-1 Recreation Senior Trips	\$ 8,000.00
01-4520-0-001-2 Recreation Family Events	\$ 13,000.00
01-4520-0-001-4 Recreation Ski Program (There was discussion about options for the buses for the ski program in 2023. School buses are not likely to be available. Amy researched the costs for renting coach buses. The estimates were \$1230 per week for Premier Coach and \$1320 per week for the Coach Co. That would cost \$22 per person per week for a total of \$110 for the session of Pat's Peak. The estimate for school bus will stay in the budget with hopes that a school bus will be available or cancel transportation for 2023 again.	\$ 3,500.00
01-4520-0-001-6 Recreation Community Service Award	\$ 150.00
01-4520-0-001-7 Recreation Soccer Program	\$ 2,200.00
01-4520-0-001-8 Recreation Senior Dinners	\$ 1,800.00
01-4520-0-001-8 Recreation Senior Dinners	\$ 4,000.00
01-4520-3-360-1 Recreation Playground and Parks	\$ 3,000.00

01-4520-5-550-0 Recreation General Maintenance	\$ 15,050.00
01-4520-5-550-4 Recreation Ice Rink	\$ 500.00
01-4520-5-560-1 Recreation Trash Removal The cost for the removal of Wayne Eddows trash was added to the budget this year after it is no longer donated. The Little League paid for it this year (2022). Per Zach, the Little League discussed paying towards the cost. This will need to be discussed at a later date to possibly have Little League and Soccer contribute towards the cost.	\$ 1,800.00
01-4520-5-560-2 Recreation Chemical Toilet	\$ 8,425.00
01-4520-5-610-0 Recreation Tools	\$ 500.00
01-4520-6-670-0 Recreation Office Supplies	\$ 3,050.00
01-4520-9-940-1 Recreation Improvements Severance	\$ 35,000.00
Total Parks & Recreation	\$ 99,975.00

Mr. Eaton motioned to approve the 2023 Budget for \$99,975.00. Ms. Strabone seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

2023 Recreation Improvements Budget- The discussion was around project(s) to help improve the parking at Wayne Eddows.

The first suggestion was to pave the existing parking lot. The estimate from Advance paving was \$49,900. Another option would be to use recycled asphalt that Mike Dross already has donated. The only cost would be the labor cost but it would need to be at the end of the season when they had the time to get it done. Mike said it would cost between \$2,000 and \$4,000 in labor costs. Striping could cost around \$7,000-\$9,000. Tom and Zach commented that stripping would not last for more than a season on the recycled asphalt. If we went this direction, we could use our striping machine each spring to brighten up the lines.

The second suggestion from Zach was to expand the existing parking lot into the outfield of the 90, clean up the right side of the parking lot to accommodate more parking along that side and move the dumpster. Since the school will no longer be using that field, only the Bobcats regularly use it which does not bring in a lot of money (although they have donated materials, finished projects and exchanged indoor field time) so the timing could be right to change it to a smaller, multiuse field.

Zach went into details about this idea. The outfield would be shortened, the dugouts would stay and the grass in the infield would be removed. With a portable mound, many other age groups could use this field, both baseball and softball, for both practice and games. With a tall fence in the outfield to shorten to the 160 and 200 and could gain 30 parking spots in what was the outfield. At the same time, the entrance into the field area (the fence coming from the parking lot) will need to be wider and then move the dumpster inside that area. The only expense will be the new fence. The increase of the parking at Wayne Eddows would be approximately \$20,000.

There is \$22,000 in our 2022 budget that wasn't used for Severance. We could ask the BOS if we could you a part of that budgeted amount this year and do this project this fall. But for now, we'll put \$25,000 in the 2023 Recreation Improvement budget in case we do not do anything this fall. We can always take it out if we finish the project before we go into the budget process.

01-4901-3-910-3

Recreation Improvements	\$	25,000.00
Increase/Improve Parking at Wayne Eddows		

Mr. Kelly motioned to approve the 2023 Recreation Improvements. Mr. Oliveira seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

The discussion continued on how to go forward with this project this year. The next BOS meeting is Monday. Mike Dross and crew will not be available until after the soccer season. With the lights getting installed soon, it might be best to wait until the heavy trucks are done. If Mike doesn't have the availability, Tom said he may have the resources to get it done. Pat requested it be done before fall soccer starts on August 28th. We'll see what can be done now or if it needs to wait until the end of the season in late October.

Completed Programs- The second summer concert was postponed and then canceled due to rain. We are in the middle of Camp Adventure. Both weeks are full with waiting lists. Basketball Camp was also full.

Upcoming Programs- The Auburn Night with fireworks is scheduled for Friday, September 9th at AVS to kick off the Duck Race weekend. There are 3 food trucks and Whiskey Business (band). The Senior BBQ is coming up on Saturday, August 20th at the Safety Complex. Upcoming is the Trunk or Treat and Tree Lighting. Field Hockey will also be starting in the fall.

Bike at Wayne Eddows- Mary expressed concern about bike riders going through the paths of Wayne Eddows and on the field. Amy purchased a "No Bikes" sign that Mike will hang on the entrance fence. There is a bike rack and the field that could be moved so that people will leave them outside the field.

Registration Website- The new website for program registrations (Sportsman) is now live. It is now AuburnPR.activityreg.com. A custom domain will be purchased. It's been very well received. All programs are listed. Senior trips, at least in the immediate future, will still register with paper registrations and checks. Because the senior trips sell out so fast, those without email and/or a computer would be at a disadvantage.

Facilities Update- The skating rink liner is currently rolled up in a ball in the storage building. Help is needed to unroll the liner and then refold it. We'll be working on that on August 23rd at 6:00 pm at the storage building. It shouldn't take long with lots of helpers.

While Mike is away, Dave Sylvia is taking care of the trash removal.

Auburn Soccer Club has been doing some maintenance on the soccer field. They are working to improve the grass, do some patching work and fix the irrigation system.

Little League- Just finished All-Stars last week. There's a change there may be a tournament at WE this weekend. More info to come. The spring season was a success. There will be some fall ball this year.

Auburn Soccer Club- Getting ready for the fall season. Working on the schedule this weekend. If new people want to sign up, have them contact Pat to see if there is a spot on the appropriate team. Although there are more registered players than ever, there are not enough volunteers for some key positions.

Review of Minutes- *Mr. Oliveira motioned to accept the minutes of June 7, 2022, Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting. Ms. Royer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

Next Meeting- Even though we have planned to meet every other month, there are times throughout the year that more meetings are needed. A September meeting was added, and others will be as needed. The next meetings will be Tuesday, September 6, 2022 and Tuesday, October 4, 2022. Location TBD.

Ms. McEvoy motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Oliveira seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.