



TOWN OF ELIZABETH

PATRICK G. DAVIDSON, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

TO: Honorable Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, and Board of Trustees
FROM: Patrick Davidson, Town Administrator
DATED: July 23, 2024
SUBJECT: Bret Wade Memorial Park

BACKGROUND

On June 14, 2022, by and through Resolution 22R28, the Town of Elizabeth established a means of naming public buildings, streets, parks and other facilities to honor individuals who had a positive impact on the community. The Naming and Memorial Committee received an application regarding Bret Wade, asking that Hidden Village Park [Hillside Park] be named on his behalf. A copy of the Memorial and Facility Naming Application is attached hereto. Based on discussions of the Committee, it is believed that the **Bret Wade Memorial Park** [to be more commonly known as “Wade Park”] should be named within the Town of Elizabeth and recognized as such.

ANALYSIS

The application considers the outstanding community support and service provided by Bret prior to succumbing to an illness on November 28, 2021. Bret’s unwavering service to the American Legion, the Stampede Rodeo, and as a Trustee of the Town of Elizabeth, impacted the Town and the community.

The December 2021 copy of the Town’s *On a First Name Basis* newsletter provided the following upon his passing:

"On behalf of the board, we are saddened and devastated to lose one of our Board Members. Trustee Bret Wade was a huge asset to the Town and to the community. He served his community to the fullest capacity and was a bright light to all he encountered. He had a passion and loved to serve in every way. There was never a task that was too big or too small. We will dearly miss our friend and team member. Bret's legacy will forever be in our hearts and minds. Our thoughts and prayers are with Devin and the family during this tragic time. We hope the community will surround them with the support they need in the days, weeks and months to come.”
[*On A First Name Basis*, Town of Elizabeth News, December 2021.]

Resolution 22R28, Section 3(A) and 3(B) state in relevant part:

A person, organization, group or event being memorialized through the naming of a Town facility shall merit such honor through having made a significant contribution to the community or having had a significant impact on the Town’s mission and purpose. [22R28, Section 3(A)].

Memorial refers to a structure, monument, bench, or plaque that memorializes a person, organization, a group or event. [22R28, Section 3(B)].

The Memorial Committee believes the requirements have been met.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

At this time, budget considerations are nominal. Staff will plan to include funds within the 2025 Budget for the appropriate signs and anticipate a formal dedication ceremony.

ATTACHMENTS

Wade – Memorial and Facility Naming Application