

TO: Township Board of Trustees

FROM: Deby Henneman, Township Coordinator

DATE: August 30, 2023

AGENDA ITEM TOPIC: Parks & Rec – Spicer Group Agreement – 5-year Master Design Plan Concept

Number of Supporting Documents: 1

Requested Action

To direct the Township Clerk to enter into an agreement with Spicer Group at a cost not to exceed \$10,500 for the development of a Master Design Plan based on our newly adopted 5-year Parks & Recreation Master Plan, and to include all pending projects including the Bennett Park Renovations and Huron River Water Trail Access Project, the and the Lakelands Trail Restroom and Amenities concepts.

Background

On January 2, 2023, we approved the Park & Recreation Master Plan, which was filed with the MDNR and approved on March 14, 2023. Similar to what we did with the expired plan, I am proposing we have a Master Design Plan concept drawn up to replace the one done by McKenna Associates on April 1, 2019, which is now obsolete.

This drawing/plan is an invaluable tool not only as a visual for residents and staff to understand the direction we would like to move, but it is also necessary to have concept plans for every grant you pursue. This year alone, I have worked on three of them. Having plans at the ready, along with the Master Plan document, will save an enormous amount of time and stress, especially if we have an opportunity pop up with a short application turnaround.

I recommend hiring Spicer Group to provide a 5-year Master Design Plan Concept, as they will be able to include many of the concept drawings/ideas they have previously helped us with, into one cohesive design. The trailhead concepts weren't included in the past, but in light of the Spark Grant we applied for, and the work that was done on the restroom proposal, I feel they should be. I also believe including the future upgrades to the Senior Center would be prudent, especially considering the expansion will need to happen one way or another, and if future grants arise, we need to be prepared to go after them.

I appreciate the Board considering the purchase of these invaluable tools in order to help us plan for the future of Parks and Recreation, the Lakelands Trail, and the Senior/Community Center.

