



## PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

January 20, 2026

### 1. ROLL CALL:

**Members Present:** Councilors; Gary Vis, Nick Laninga, and Mark Wohlrab

**Staff Present:** Mayor Scott Korthuis, City Administrator; John Williams, Parks Director; Brent DeRuyter, Community Development Director; Heidi Gudde

**Guests:** Parks and Rec District Members: Amanda May and Greg Faber

### 2. ACTION ITEMS:

#### A. **Approval of Parks Committee Minutes- November 17, 2025**

Action: The Parks Committee approved the November 17, Parks Committee minutes.

#### B. **Security Solutions Scope of Work Agreement- Park Cameras**

Action: The Parks Committee approved the 5-year agreement for parks cameras

#### C. **Approval of Civil Infrastructure for Bender Buildings Project**

Action: The Parks Committee approved the proposal to move forward for Council approval at a later date.

#### D. **Reappointment of Advisory Committee Members**

Action: The Parks Committee approved the reappointment of Park and Trail Advisory Committee members: Jeff Davis, Len VanderVelden, and Pam Holladay and Berthusen Park Advisory Committee members: Karen Steensma, Larry McPhail, Joel Vander Hoek, and Dave Timmer.

### 3. INFORMATION ITEMS:

#### A. **Updates on Parks and Trails**

##### **Benson Park Street Discussion-**

Director Gudde provided a few documents showing proposed property lines and street around the Benson Park area and Parks Committee members and staff asked questions about future phases involving planning, construction and potential development in the area.

##### **Schoolyard Park-**

Parks Director DeRuyter and Mayor Korthuis reported on encouraging meetings and a potential splash pad site plan with NW Playground. The idea would be to include room in a storage area on the west end of the new restroom for infrastructure for the splash pad in a warmer environment that is clear of vandalism as well.



## PARKS DEPARTMENT

Brent De Ruyter, Parks Director  
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Parks Director DeRuyter also reported on both design updates moving forward with SCJ Alliance, who drew up the original designs when the property was donated and on engineering completion items needed for a new restroom building with Bradley engineering. They are working closely with Greg Robinson (architect) to get final design documents for restroom construction.

### **Parks Department Shop Addition**

The shop addition is close to completion, and the department is still waiting on permit documents from Astound for fiber to be installed for completion of the office section.

### **Bender Fields Project Update**

The final engineering documents required for permits have been sent back to the architect and engineer for further changes.

### **Parks and Recreation District Update-**

PRD members Faber and May gave a brief presentation of what the district has in mind for acquiring design plans for a phased approach to the development of Benson Park for additional field usage. Test wells are currently installed onsite for data collection, and the committee thanked the PRD for their efforts to support this project moving forward. The end goal would be to have construction documents in possession for the ability to hand to donors and contractors who choose to help move this project forward in the future.

## **4. ITEMS ADDED**

**Meeting Adjourned: 4:56pm**

**NEXT MEETING- Monday, February 17, 2026**