

## Minerva Park Council Work Session Summary

**Date:** July 10, 2025

**Time:** 7:03 PM – ~8:30 PM

**Location:** Minerva Park Municipal Building

**Topic Focus:** Infrastructure improvements, funding strategies, public amenities, and community policies.

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### 1. Bathhouse RFP & Pool Renovation Plans

- Council reviewed the **Request for Proposal (RFP)** to hire an architect/engineer for the **new pool bathhouse**.
  - The bathhouse RFP includes:
    - Design plans
    - Construction documents
    - Contractor oversight
  - Goal: Begin construction **Fall 2026**, complete by **May 1, 2027**, to open for the 2027 pool season.
  - **Estimated bathhouse cost:** \$300K–\$400K (50% grant available).
  - **Total project funding goal** (including pool renovation): ~\$2M via **income tax bonds** (won't impact debt limits).
  - Pool is considered a **valuable community asset**, even if not profit-generating.
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### □ 2. Financial Oversight & Pool Operations

- Discussed revenue-generating ideas:
    - Swim lessons, team rentals, earlier opening hours
    - Long-term: an **event space at the pool** for off-season use
  - Reviewed **cash handling policies**, with strong support for cameras, daily reconciliations, and accountability.
  - Explored the idea of **cashless options** like the zoo's pay-card kiosks.
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### 3. Sidewalk Expansion & Connectivity

- Village has been allocated **\$550,000 grant (LinkUS)** to fund sidewalks/pathways.
  - Sidewalks on **Minerva Lake Road** should be **5 feet wide** (not 4) with a 2–3 ft grass buffer, staying within the **public right-of-way**.
  - Construction could **wait until funding is formalized in 2026** to be eligible for reimbursement.
  - Council plans to integrate sidewalks with the **Greenline Pathway**, enhancing connectivity across the village.
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### 4. Streetlights & Trees

- Council is considering **lamppost-style lighting** along major roads for safety and visual identity.
  - Designs would match village character and may include flag brackets, outlets for decorations, and banners.
  - Debated whether to **add trees** along sidewalks—some favor it for aesthetics, others worry it disrupts the vintage, open-lawn look.
  - A **resident-requested tree planting** near Quiet Brook was favorably discussed.
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### 5. Grant Funding & Long-Term Planning

- Emphasis on **coordinating projects** to align with available grants (federal, OPWC, LinkUS, etc.).
  - Agreed on the need for a **public-facing master plan** (or "infrastructure concept plan") to explain:
    - Sidewalk and road improvements
    - Pool and lake projects
    - Long-term capital investment goals
  - Discussed creating **case-by-case tree reimbursement** policies for sidewalk-related removals.
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## 6. Municipal Building Use & Rentals

- Council debated the growing concern over **damage and misuse** during **private rentals** of the municipal building.
  - Ideas floated:
    - Increase **rental fee** (currently \$150)
    - Add a **refundable security deposit**
    - Enforce **stricter cleanup and damage policies**
    - Consider limiting events to **non-party, community-oriented gatherings**
  - Some council members suggested **ending public rentals altogether**.
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## 7. Park & Pavilion Signage

- New signage will be installed at the **basketball court and pavilion**:
    - “Use family-friendly language/music”
    - “No fighting or weapons”
  - Each sign costs ~\$70 and replaces existing ones.
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## 8. Accessible Pool Chairs

- Due to increased demand from older members, council approved ordering **20 ADA-friendly lounge chairs** (20-inch height).
  - **Cost:** ~~\$6,600 total~~ (\$330/chair) for spring 2026 delivery.
  - These chairs are more inclusive and offer comfort for those with mobility issues.
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## Final Notes

- The session concluded with lighthearted banter about signage, chair colors, and accessibility.
- **Motion to adjourn** passed unanimously.