



PARKS MONTHLY REPORT, SEPTEMBER 2020

PARKS / CEMETERY / AQUATICS / CAMPGROUND / TRAILS

Park and Recreation

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The first week in September the parks employees mowed all the properties get everything evened up since they did not mow the past two weeks. Tim L. took the maintainer to the complex were him and I graded off the parking lots. Tim L. also took the backhoe and cleaned out around all our culverts to keep them open. The grinding company made it back to town and cleaned up the pile from the tornado damage. At Platt Park we extended our tile line to the west another 250' so that it drains away from everything and will help keep the area dry. Jay took care of the ball diamonds again for adult softball. Mike L. has been taking care of the downtown and watering the hanging baskets. We were able to get the first permabrella frame up at the pool with two more to go. Alliant Energy was kind enough to come to Woodlawn Cemetery and drop the power line so that we could cut down the dead oak tree up front by block 16. While Tim and I were at Platt Park, we noticed someone sleeping in the back pavilion so we called the PD; turned out they both had warrants so they were taken away. At Woodlawn the rest of the tornado damaged bushes were removed up front and put in the grinding pile.

This month in the parks, we are experienced more vandalism in Wings Park recently. The sink was broke off a bathroom wall and this week someone spray painted all over the women's side and they have stolen two American flags from diamond one. The employees took advantage of the rain days to catch up on some projects and complete some mower maintenance. I had Tab S. power spray the flag pole base and podium and started priming them before the rains came. At the aquatic center, we were able to get the second umbrella structure installed. I attended an online trails summit this month with the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation in which they covered possible funding sources. I met with Jon Biederman about the pool filter as a future project for budgeting and been working on budget and CIP items. At Platt Park, we had to take down the small two-post shelter as the foundation/pad was failing. We were able to save the roof structure and posts so we can reuse once we pour a new foundation. The cemetery employees worked on cleaning up the site where the contractors did their grinding of the tornado damaged trees. The employees reset the skate park sign and the diamonds were prepared for the adult softball league.

The third week in September the employees mowed all the properties once again as we got over 8" of rain last week. Tab S. is going around to all the lots and houses mowing them this week. Jay replaced some plastic electrical outlet covers that were snapped off and replaced them with metal covers at Wings Park. The employees are finishing the winterization at the aquatic facility as well. Jay and Chris took a load of rock out to City Park and filled in the road from the wet weather we had the previous week. The ball diamonds were dragged and marked once again for the rec softball; soccer nets were placed and anchored down at the complex. A new cutting edge was ordered for the tractor drill as we are going to be drilling several holes to install our new mileage signs along the east trail. In Platt Park, the employees are working on taking down two ash trees that are infested with EAB before we put the two-post shelter back into place that is next to these trees. I met with Loran W. with Alliant Energy for him to complete the locate of the gas at the pool for a future project. At Woodlawn, the employees had a late full burial on a Tuesday evening, and a cremation the following day. Foundations were framed up for the pour at the end of the month as we gave notice in the paper for foundation orders to be in by Sept. 25th. I met with the trails committee on the second Tuesday evening of the month as we are seeking easements for future trail sections. We picked up two more committee members this past month, Ashley Ehn and Mary Stiver to help with the trail work. I sent out the park and rec agenda with fees and CIP items to be approved at our meeting the following Wednesday.



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This week in the parks, the employees complete their daily disinfecting of the shop, equipment and trucks. In the cemetery, foundation frames are prepared as we plan to pour concrete the following Tuesday, weather permitting. This fall, we have over 100' of foundations to pour which is more than we have done in recent years; to date the cemetery has had 45 burials so far this year. Tab Sly is painting the flagpole base and the podium on the south side of the cemetery. The park employees are busy working on some various projects as they are framing up some concrete projects. The park employees are preparing a new sidewalk at City Hall that will go to the old police dept. side of the building. Jay P. prepared diamonds for the rec league on Tuesday and we installed the last permabrella at the aquatic center. The campground host is painting picnic tables for us that we received the paint through a Diamond Vogel grant we received. I hosted the park and rec meeting Wednesday night where they approves fee schedules for park and rec and CIP items for the parks dept. I received notice that we are receiving \$8,818 from the RJ McElroy Foundation to replace the playground equipment at Redgate Park that was destroyed with the tornado this spring. I have been talking with homeowners to get easements for future trail segments. The two large dying ash trees were taken down at Platt Park so we can get to work on putting the shelter back into place. This week the parks employees installed new trail mileage signs along the east trail segment and have heard many compliments.

This week with the park and cemetery employees, they complete their daily disinfecting of the shop, equipment and trucks. This past week I had Tab Sly finish painting the cemetery flagpole stand and podium at Woodlawn. The cemetery employees framed up all the foundations for the pour on Tuesday morning. First thing Tuesday the park employees poured the new sidewalk at City Hall to the old PD area. Once poured they sent the concrete truck to Woodlawn and poured most of the headstone foundations. The park employees have been working at Platt Park framing up the new foundation for the smaller shelter up front by the playground. This will include a new sidewalk to the existing sidewalk that traverses to the retirement home. We will also be installing a drinking fountain along this new sidewalk, as there currently is not any water fountains in this park. The guys have been walking through downtown every morning picking up trash and cleaning bathrooms as well. I met with a student at Redgate Park that is interested in completing her senior seminar project there. I suggested that she could paint the three smaller shelters and plant a few trees at the park. Jay and Clark have been dragging and marking the diamonds at Wings as this the last week for that and the guys mowed the complex and emptied garbage cans for soccer and football games. I received a quote for the shelter/bathroom project at Redgate Park and expecting a second anytime. Still waiting on the quotes for the plumbing and electrical from contractors for that project. I met with Larry Steffen at City Park for a second quote for the electrical project. I sent out the agenda for the tree board meeting I will host on Monday evening and have been talking with landowners about trail easements.

Complex parking



Culverts





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Tree grinding



Tiling



Ball fields

Downtown

PermaBrealls



Alliant Energy





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Platt Park arrests



Tornado cleanup



Vandalism



Winterizing pool



Woodlawn flag base



Aquatic umbrellas



Trails Summit



Platt Park shelter



Grinding cleanup





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Sign repair



Diamonds prepped



Burials



Covers



Winterizing



Rock



Ball fields



Equipment upkeep



Trail signs



Ash tree removal



Locates





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Umbrellas



Cemetery Foundations



City Hall sidewalk



Building repair



**McElroy Trust**

New signage





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Landscaping



Rec fields



Painting finished



City Hall sidewalk



Cemetery foundations





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Concrete projects



Rec fields



Platt Park



Daily Activities

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- ❖ Sanitizing shop and equipment
- ❖ Reviewing sanitizing and social distancing daily
- ❖ Pick up garbage downtown
- ❖ Water hanging flowers every morning
- ❖ Checking/maintaining parks, cemeteries
- ❖ Monthly safety checklist
- ❖ Maintenance on equipment
- ❖ Order supplies for different departments
- ❖ Safety meeting/orientations
- ❖ Weed spraying
- ❖ 2 burials, 1 cremation
- ❖ Diamonds prepared



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Progress on Projects

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- ❖ All culverts cleaned out
- ❖ Tornado damaged trees ground up at cemetery
- ❖ Ash tree removal, stumps ground at Wings
- ❖ Poured foundations at Woodlawn
- ❖ Website work
- ❖ Getting quotes on different projects
- ❖ Fee schedule and CIP items approved by park and rec board
- ❖ Mowing all parks/cemeteries/lots
- ❖ Pool umbrellas installed
- ❖ Dirt work around bridges finished
- ❖ Extended tile at Platt Park
- ❖ City Hall sidewalk poured
- ❖ Attended online trails summit
- ❖ Attended Upper Explorerland Meeting online
- ❖ Pool winterized
- ❖ New trail mileage signs installed
- ❖ Flag pole and podium painted at Woodlawn
- ❖ Trail monthly meeting/easements

Next Month and Future Projects

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- ❖ Diamond 3 fencing
- ❖ Website work
- ❖ Install water fountains
- ❖ Shelter install at Platt Park
- ❖ Remove well houses at City Park
- ❖ Drinking fountains install
- ❖ Replace campground doors
- ❖ Bleachers to diamond 3
- ❖ Diamond 1 building work
- ❖ Dead ash tree removal
- ❖ Trail easements
- ❖ Transplant trees to dog park
- ❖ Electrical project at City Park
- ❖ Bathroom project at Red Gate Park
- ❖ Replace decking on old Wings bridge
- ❖ Aerate ball fields
- ❖ Disc golf course install
- ❖ Trees Forever planting- October

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