



City of Sidney, MT  
Park and Recreation Committee Meeting 11-20-2023  
November 20, 2023 5:45 PM  
115 2nd Street SE | Sidney, MT 59270

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The City Council meetings are open to the public attending in person, with masks encouraged when social distancing cannot be accomplished. If the public does not wish to participate in person, they are also invited to participate via a Zoom meeting. You can participate via phone:

Meeting ID: 713 080 5898      Passcode: 4332809      Call: 1-346-248-7799

**Alderman Present:** DiFonzo, Christensen

**Other's Present:** Mayor Norby, PWD Hintz, Parks Superintendent Ridl, Greg Hitchcock (Sidney Herald), Jarred Jurgens, Brandi Azure and Waylon Olson.

**1. New Business**

**a. South Meadow Park Equipment**

Alderman DiFonzo stated he wanted to review certain items that were going to need to happen to make ensure the safety for this equipment. He stated in the previous meetings it was allowed for the installation of the equipment adjacent to the ballfield and he stated he feels it was marked to be located closer to the fields which could increase safety issues with fly balls. He stated one of the requirements was a 5 to 6-foot fence surrounding the equipment must be installed and Ms. Azure stated they have the funding for the fence and will purchase it and install it the way stated in the previous meeting. Alderman DiFonzo stated the City has agreed to install netting above the equipment and it needs to be installed to protect the entire playground area and everyone agreed. PWD Hintz stated he is unsure if the netting donated can be used at that location and Alderman DiFonzo stated the netting needs to be up prior to the equipment being used and the same for the fence. Mrs. Azure asked if it all needs to be done before fast pitch season starts and Alderman DiFonzo stated yes prior to the season and it being used.

Mrs. Azure asked if the has be around all 4 sides of the fence and if it can go from the concession stand to the dugout on the other side. Parks Superintendent Ridl stated she was not sure why it was marked to be located where it is as she has a 4-inch trunk line running under that area. PWD Hintz stated he presented several locations to the Committee at a prior meeting and the general location was chosen but it was moved in closer so it could be seen from the benches and didn't take up as much parking space, but it can get pushed back. He stated its current location does make it easier to encompass it with the current netting. Parks Superintendent stated she would prefer it be north about 20-feet more so she can get her service pickup in and have it off her trunk line and electrical. Parks Superintendent Ridl stated they could manipulate how the equipment is

installed and spin it to make it longer than it is wider to make it work better for all. Alderman DiFonzo stated the fence around all 4 sides per the agreement for the equipment and it is going to be younger children and there is concerns about keeping them in a designated area to stop them from running into the parking lot so the area of the playground needs to be designated. Alderman DiFonzo asked if the trunk line can be marked so they can look at the location of the equipment and she stated she could mark it.

Mrs. Azure asked how far away a bench or fence would have to be from the equipment and Parks Superintendent Ridl stated anything has to be 6-feet away from the equipment, including the border and/or a bench.

Alderman DiFonzo stated he just wants to make sure everyone is on the same page for the installation, so it is done correctly. Alderwoman Christensen stated they would like to see them work with City staff to make sure the location is the best and Alderman Stevenson agreed. PWD Hintz stated he could do another sketch with the trunk line and get it back to everyone to finalize the plan and the Park and Recreation Committee agreed.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:07pm.