

CITY OF ST. FRANCIS
PARKS COMMISSION AGENDA
Police & Public Works - 4058 St. Francis Blvd NW
August 14, 2025
7:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Parks Commission was called to order at 7:05 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Commission Member Greg Zutz, Commission Member and Chair Barb Anderson, Commission Member and Co-Chair Daria Shiffer, Commission Member Renee Wedan.

Also Present: Public Works Director Paul Carpenter, Public Works Admin/Stormwater Inspector Jennifer Gulbrandson, and Councilmember Sarah Udvig.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION BY: ZUTZ SECOND: WEDAN APPROVING THE MEETING MINUTES FROM MAY 15, 2025.

Ayes: Zutz, Anderson, Shiffer, and Wedan

Nays: None

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION BY: ZUTZ SECOND: SHIFFER APPROVING THE AGENDA.

Ayes: Anderson, Zutz, Shiffer, and Wedan

Nays: None

AGENDA NOT APPROVED

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Rum River Woods Timeline Update

Public Works Director Carpenter reviewed the Staff report in regard to the Rum River Woods timeline. He asked the Commission if they were supportive of moving the basketball court renovations to next spring.

The Commission was supportive of this update.

B. Warming House/Ice Rink Design Update

Carpenter reviewed the Staff report concerning the warming house and ice rink design updates. He shared that they have so far received one grant for this project, and there are others they are still waiting to hear from. He noted that his goal is to secure \$360,000 in grant funding for this project. He shared that he hopes to have design photos at the next meeting for the Commission to review and share their feedback on.

Zutz asked if they had looked into comparing the costs for asphalt versus concrete. Carpenter said yes.

Zutz asked where the fire pit is going to go. Carpenter said it would be just to the east of the picnic tables.

Shiffer asked if they are holding off on deciding what to do to the west side of the building until they know what is happening with the Highway 47 construction. Carpenter said yes.

The Commission thanked Carpenter for his work on this project and for the design update.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Splash Pad Discussion

Anderson shared that she requested to discuss this item as she has visited a few different splash pads over the summer with her grandchildren and thinks this could be a great addition to the City.

Carpenter said he can look into pricing for a small splash pad and bring information back to the Commission.

Shiffer said a splash pad would be great for the City as they have a lot of young families. She added that she would like to see them look at this long-term for something that would generate revenue for all ages, not just young kids.

Wedan agreed that it would be nice to also have a water facility that adults can use as well. She shared that she is worried that if they just add facilities for small children that the community would not respond well if they do not benefit from these facilities.

Udvig noted that with the increase in water rates, they likely will not want to do anything that would involve using more water. She said they should look into things like disc golf or pickleball that would require less maintenance overall.

7. MEMBER REPORTS

Anderson shared that she had a very pleasant experience at the Farmer's Market.

Shiffer asked if they are still looking for more vendors to come to the Farmer's Market. Carpenter said that as far as he is aware, they are always open for new vendor opportunities.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY: ZUTZ SECOND: SHIFFER TO ADJOURN THE PARKS COMMISSION MEETING.

Ayes: Anderson, Zutz, Shiffer, and Wedan

Nays: None

Chairwoman Anderson adjourned the meeting at 7:33 pm.

Jennifer Wida, City Clerk