

CITY OF WILLARD, MO PARK BOARD MEETING JULY 30, 2026

The Willard Park Board met on Thursday July 30, 2026 at Willard, Mo City Hall.

Board Members Present: Rachel Mathison, Valorie Simpson, Ian Powers, Fred Burk, Brooke Jarvis

Board Members Absent: Vanessa Keene, Eric Wilkins

Staff Present: Park Director: Edward Sands

President Valorie Simpson called the meeting to order a 6:02

1. Roll call:

Valorie Simpson - present, Fred Burk- present, Ian Powers-present, Rachel Mathieson-present, Brooke Jarvis. A quorum was established.

2. Agenda amendments/Approval: Rachel Mathison made the motion to amend the agenda to move unfinished business to item 8, walk in the park to item 9, adjournment to item 10, seconded by Fred Burk. Voting aye: Fred Burk, Rachel Mathison, Valorie Simpson, Ian Powers and Brooke Jarvis. Motion passed 5-0

3. APPROVAL OF JUNE 25, 2026 MINUTES

Rachel Mathison made the motion to approve minutes, seconded by Ian Powers. Voting aye: Fred Burk, Rachel Mathison, Valorie Simpson, Ian Powers and Brooke Jarvis. Motion passed 5-0

4. CITIZENS INPUT

None

5. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The board reviewed the financial statements. There a questioned asked about the tree board finances. Edward Sands will be meeting them soon. Alder Rachel Mathison spoke to the board on why all departments budgets have been cut back. Her explanation helped the board better understand. Rachel Mathison made the motion to approve financials, seconded by Fred Burk. Voting aye: Fred Burk, Rachel Mathison, Valorie Simpson, Ian Powers, Brooke Jarvis. Motion passed 5-0

6. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Edward Sands went over his report which included staff, programs, facilities and equipment. He is not looking to do a lot of changes this year but spoke of his vision on how to improve PR and better organized departments.

Staff: We have a shortage of lifeguards because the pool opened up late. Currently we have 7 lifeguards which is causing a problem and have had to reduce the pools operating times. He is looking to hire another maintenance person since we are short staffed.

Programs: Current programs are going well. Looking at moving soccer back to Jackson Street Park.

Facilities: All our ball fields need come TLC. Edward Sands is going to get a bid from Landmark to open and close the pool.

Equipment: We are currently using commercial residential mower's. Which is hard on the equipment. Multiple mowers have been in the shop for repairs. There was a discussion on public works taking over some of the mowing.

7. NEW BUSINESS

There was a discussion about the community building and the seniors use of the building.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Non-profit was brought up again, we would like someone to step up and organize Friends of the Park. 501 C non-profit

9. WALK THE JACKSON ST PARK

The board walked to the community building and viewed Edward's concerns. We walked to the pool and viewed pool equipment and pool. We walked to the new playground and looked at some issues. It was mention that there is a warranty and should call the company that installed it for repairs. We looked at the open area that Edward wants to move the soccer fields.

10. ADJOURN MEETING

Motion made by Fred Burk to adjourn the meeting at 7:42, seconded by Brooke Jarvis. Voting aye: Fred Burk, Rachel Mathison, Valorie Simpson, Ian Powers, Brooke Jarvis. Motion passed 5-0

Submitted by Valorie Simpson

President Valorie Simpson

Secretary, Vanessa Keene

City Clerk, Courtney Myers