

CITY OF GILLETT
PARKS & CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEETING
Council Chambers – Municipal Building
150 N McKenzie Ave – Gillett, WI 54124

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2023 AT 5:30 PM
MINUTES

Chairman Gildemeister called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Roll Call

Present: Alderpersons Jon Gildemeister, Gary Spaulding, and Nanette Mohr

Also Present: Clerk Treasurer Chelsea Anderson, Deputy Clerk Lisa Anderson, Mayor Josh McCarthy, Alderperson Debbie Rudie, Katie Daul from Gillett Area Chamber of Commerce, Linda and Gary Hougas Finnegan Lake Walleye Club, Irene Drake, Deanna Smith Gillett Historical Society, Micki and Todd Carlson Fourth of July Committee, Debbie Woods Oconto County Fair Board Secretary, Steve Fifield Oconto County Fair Board, Ali Klemens, Chris Byars, Jerry Luther, Mark Rosenlund, Wendy Vorpahl Gillett East Main Street Club, and Lisa Sorlie Civic Club President, Josh Yonker FFA Alumni, and Ryan Schlosser Oconto County Fair President.

Clerk informs Committee that Open Meeting Law has been complied with and Roll has been taken.

Public Input-Linda Hougas stated all the club members are here for the open discussion on the park rental fee and special event fee and have questions. She stated all the clubs give back to the community and the charges went up to use the facilities, now we charge for event, setup, takedown, cleanup, etc., concerned because they need to rent the fair building and then on top of that rent the park- it will take away all proceeds. Stated the clubs should have been notified of the parks meeting when the charges were changed.

Gillett Area Chamber Chris Byars asked about putting in sign posts with QR codes for phone and app updates, asking permission to put posts in.

Todd Carlson Civic Club said they have a great group of people and donate a lot of time; the fees seem to be rising tremendously. Setup fee is not fair because the setup is done early, 100 dollars a day for 8 days is alot. Lisa Sorlie said the money goes back to the community, balancing budgets is a tough thing, but what is the mission of the city? Gillett Historical Society is an offsite event, does this fee include them? Micki Carlson Fourth of July is concerned about not being able to use the cones and barricades.

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Discussion and Possible Action on minutes from November 2, 2022

MOTION: Mohr/Spaulding

Motion to approve minutes from November 2, 2022.

Voice Vote: All Voting Aye – **MOTION CARRIED**

2. Discussion and Possible Action on Park Rental Fee and Park Questions- The change of the park fees went through and approved through Common Council June 2, 2022. Club members are irritated that they were not notified of the meeting. Alderperson Rudie stated we post meetings by Open Meeting Law procedures; we use the permitting process as a blanket procedure for all clubs. Alderpersons thanked clubs for coming to discuss. Mayor will talk to Public Works about cones and barricades, to change the procedure of not lending them out to events to rentals or similar. Clubs asking what our mission is with this change, stated there is a growing distrust between the clubs and the city government. Byars stated the event members should have been invited to discuss before the decision was made. All decisions are made in committee then sent to council, the guidance we receive from our department heads is where we trust because they work with the issues every day. We solve problems that come to us and try to take all into consideration. Mayor stated our mission statement. Committee will discuss a division of the park for a different fee schedule in the park rental fees. Will review the park rental agreement. Debbie Woods said the Oconto County Fair maintains their buildings beautifully, and they should not have to pay for our park upkeep. Stated the answer is working together. Asked us to look into grants for maintenance and new equipment.

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3. Discussion and Possible Action on FFA Alumni Special Event Permit

MOTION: Gildemeister/Spaulding

Motion to approve the FFA Alumni Auction Special Event Permit.

Voice Vote: All Voting Aye – **MOTION CARRIED**

4. Set Next Meeting Date- April 27, 2023 at 5:30 PM.

5. Adjournment at 6:50 pm.

MOTION: Gildemeister/Spaulding

Motion to adjourn.

Voice Vote: All Voting Aye – **MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully Submitted by
Clerk Treasurer Chelsea Anderson