

**ACHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI  
PARK COMMISSION  
PROPOSED MINUTES OF THE APRIL 1, 2024 REGULAR MEETING**

*Park Commission Agendas and Minutes are available on the township website at <https://ytown.org/park-commission>*

**I. Call to Order**

Commission Streeter called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. at the Ypsilanti Township Civic Center.

**II. Roll Call**

**Commissioners Present:** Jeff Neel, Brad Hine, David Streeter, Ed Burnett

**Commissioners Not Present:** Starr Smith, Darrell Kirby, Tajalli Hodge

**Staff Present:** John Hines

**III. Determination of Quorum**

Quorum present.

**IV. Approval of Agenda:**

Motion to approve agenda made by Neel

Seconded by Kirby

Motion Carried Unanimously

**V. Approval of Minutes** –Approval of Minutes for February 2024.

Motion to approve agenda made by Hine

Seconded by Burnett

Motion Carried Unanimously

**VI. Citizens Participation**

None.

**VII. Reports NA**

**A. Staff Reports**

John Hines, Municipal Services Director.

1. Job reposted for Recreation Services Manager. Still working through applicants and hope to have update next month.
2. Position for Assistant Municipal Services Director to help with workload and report to Director Hines has been filled by Jeffrey Yar.
3. Community Center update: Stantek, engineering firm, and Decima, contractor, approved by Board of Trustees. Decima started work 3 weeks ago. Working fast to get project completed by early summer.
4. AR Brower approved for AARPA renovation project. Ford Lale Park: goal is to finish before Memorial Day. West Willow Park, Community Center Park, and Clubview Park renovations – pickleball/tennis resurfacing, walking paths, general site cleanup – targeted for start by mid-May start and completion by mid-July.
5. Communication plan for updating the community on parks progress will be done primarily through the Township websites, but for smaller neighborhood parks, mailers will be sent.
6. At the Board of Trustees meeting on Tuesday, 4/2,24, John will bring in for discussion the engineering proposal to purchase per-fabricated bathrooms for Ford Heritage and Lakeside Park. \$117,000/unit (2 stalls/per sex). Will run water and sewer lines from nearby neighborhoods.
7. Gearing up to hire staff for summer.

8. Ypsi Township is partnering with cybersecurity firm SensCy to offer a mix of in-person and virtual training. Details and courses posted Township website.

**B. Commissioner Reports**

None.

**VIII. Unfinished Business**

None.

**IX. New Business**

John Hines, Municipal Services Director. Ford Heritage Park Issue. Complaints about visitor eating lunch in baseball field parking lot. Possible solution is to erect chain barrier/gate and close off that parking area except during baseball season. Still investigating details of issue.

Spencer Widon, US Geological Survey: Phragmites Research Update. USGS has been running experiments for 2 years at North Hydro Park, applying organic (vs chemical) treatments. In the second year of the experiment, they set up 40 additional plots and varied techniques and timing of application of the herbicide. Promising results – much less growth of the invasive species in treated areas. Rhizomes are large difficult to eradicate but treatments reduce carbohydrate storage by 50%. Hope a third year will help further advance experimental results. Asking for approval for a third year.

Questions:

Streeter – has formulation changed? Widon – added more surfactant to help spread the herbicide but active ingredients are the same.

Motion to approve the continued USGS phragmites research at North Hydro made by Streeter.

Seconded by Hines.

Motion Carried Unanimously Unanimous.

**X. Announcements**

None.

**XI. Recommendations**

None.

**XII. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn: Neel

Seconded: Hine

Meeting Adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Minutes taken and prepared by Jeff Neel, Secretary