

Date: 9/8/2025

Call to Order Time: 6:33

Roll Call

| | |
|----------|---|
| Burnett | P |
| Creech | P |
| Crosby | P |
| Johnson | P |
| LaFrance | P |
| Sanders | P |
| Jones | P |

Determination of Quorum Y

Approval of Agenda Amended N **Motion:** Burnett **Second:** Crosby Motion passed

Approval of Minutes Amended N **Motion:** Sanders **Second:** Jones Motion passed

Citizens Participation

Name: Shelley Ferguson

Comments: Shelley expressed her love of local parks. Noted that North Bay Park is overrun with buckthorn, etc. The walkway over the north end of the lake has loose and unsafe boards and some sections (esp. over wetland area) are underwater. Vegetation (weeds, grass) are overtaking the paths on the islands. Access to walkway from east end (easier for handicap access) is also getting bad.

Notes: Need to look into Audubon Society or Eagle Crest / Marriott about contributions to walkway improvements.

Name: Ed Michowski

Comments: Ed is the Deputy Umpire in Chief, district 6 of USA Softball of Michigan. He has concerns about the lights at the Community Center Park softball fields. States the overall visiting teams are impressed with the lighting. Some lights are out at fields 1 & 2 and lack of lights at fields 3 & 4 limit tournaments. Copper from lights has been stolen in past, sees need to place equipment in secure location. Lights are older tech and could be replaced with LEDs for savings. Fencing around fields is old and has fallen in some spots, he has done temporary repairs with snow fencing, needs a more permanent solution. The astroturf in the batters boxes is also old and starting to slip.

Staff Reports

Hines: North Bay Park – Scores are in for grants for work on walking paths and over water walkways (land and water conservation grants)

The parking lot at the Civic Center is proceeding quickly with asphalt and striping to be done soon followed by concrete work.

Work on the 14B District Court is on schedule to be completed soon.

Community Center – Locker room renovations will be bid by 10/7 and the township board will vote on 10/21 for contract approval. Goal of locker rooms being finished by the end of 2025 or early 2026 is on track.

Grants from the Washtenaw County seniors tax for recreation, etc are pending.

Appleridge Park – Path has been widened and prepped for paving. Playground equipment should be delivered next week and paving of path will also proceed.

West Willow Park – Equipment for six exercise stations and basketball hoops have been ordered.

October 18 is the possible date for the reopening ceremony.

Commissioner Reports

Burnett - Inquired about possibility of adding dog way stations to Appleridge Park. Also asked about the new county recreation center in Superior Twp. Has the county been communicating with us about this project?

Creech - None

Crosby - None

Johnson - None

LaFrance - None

Sanders - Still working with Ford Land (a division of Ford Inc.) on building improvements at the Dam and electric generating station. It is a slow back and forth. They are currently looking for a list of 'wants'

note: Roof and windows need work

Jones - None

Unfinished Business

Clubview Park review. No parking signs have been installed at the Hillcrest (north) entrance to the park. Preliminary recommendation given to board about developing new park area on west side of park. The pavilion rebuild is on the budget for 2026.

New Business

Motion to look into partnerships with Eagle Crest Marriott or other stakeholders for North Bay walkway. Motion by Burnett, second by Crosby, motion passes unanimously.

Rowfest 2026 needs approval. The organizers have submitted a request; Rowfest 2025 went very well.

Motion: Recommend special event application with Rowfest for 2026. Motion by Johnson, second by Jones, motion passes unanimously.

Motion to adapt the recommended new fees for parks. Motion by Johnson; 5 yes, 2 no; motion passes.

Announcements

We welcome Gigi Jones to the parks commission.

Recommendations to the Township Board

We recommend that the board approve the Rowfest 2026 application

Adjournment **Time:** 8:07 **Motion:** Johnson **Second:** Crosby Motion passed