

VILLAGE OF NEW AUBURN
MEETING MINUTES: SPECIAL BOARD
on Wednesday, September 27, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

The Village of New Auburn held a Special Board Meeting at the New Auburn Village Hall, 130 E. Elm St., New Auburn.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call; Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m. by President Berg. Answering roll call were: Trustee Verlyn Motzer; Dalton Hinke; Allan Anderson; Gary Pitts; and President Shannon Berg. All present. Staff Present were: Administrator-Clerk Ardith Story and Deputy Clerk Peg Paulsen.
2. Discussion of Park Grant with Community; Discussion ensued. A sign-in sheet was provided of which 14 citizens signed and were present. Administrator-Clerk Story presented a PowerPoint presentation providing the Stewardship Grant information, the history of the last two years to how we were awarded the grant including completing the Outdoor Recreational Plan, the involvement of the Parks/Tourism Committee, the Village Board to approve a project scope, then project breakouts with costs were provided to community members present for a proposed 4,576 square foot shelter with a heated year round restroom of 400 square feet and sheltered enclosed kitchen area as well as an open roofed shelter to house picnic tables at a cost of \$392,330, a walking path from Park Street to Dollar General on Old 53, a 10-foot pathway and extending from Dollar General to the Park Pavilion to walkers, bicyclists can walk or bike around the entire park area including landscaping of brush, shrubs, trees at a cost of \$339,854, a 60-foot x 30-foot splashpad with a 10-foot outer walkway at a cost of \$267,816. More information including the grant fund and grant match explanation was provided by Administrator-Clerk Story. Proposed options of matching the grant fund. Although the grant was awarded at \$500,000 the grant is a 50/50 match so the village would have to match the \$500,000. Further discussion ensued including a veteran's memorial. Story mentioned that the grant does not support/cover a veteran's memorial but would double-check with the grantor (DNR). [Clerk Note: The grant does not cover a veteran's memorial]. Other discussion by citizen(s) considering building the deck off the pavilion outside of the grant as well walking away from the expenses that have been expended already. After closure of the discussion period the consensus of the board was to proceed to enhance the park amenities to be new restrooms in the park to replace the existing ones, do not pursue the splashpad, a standard walking path with no bridge but constructed with culverts, and a deck on the pavilion. Clerk Story is to email the DNR with these items. Administrator Story pointed out to assure understanding by the board and the community that this would reduce the grant monies awarded from \$500,000 by half. [Clerk Note: Actual reduced to \$226,966] as a result of removing the splash pad due to grant scoring of the application.
3. Review of and Possible Consider/Act on Park Grant Application;
Motion by Darla Butterfield/Bonnie Hahlberg to act on the park grant as decided. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried. [Clerk Note: Motions cannot be made by citizens so the Village Board met again on October 4, 2023 to make the legal motion].
4. Adjourn.
Meeting adjourned by Dan North/Shannon Berg.

Prepared by
Ardith Story, Clerk-Treasurer