

# Park Budget Work Session

– Advertised in the Medina County Gazette  
as an additional meeting.

**Wednesday, September 8, 2010 at 7 PM** Held in the Conference Room Located Adjacent to Council Chambers.

Present:

- Jim Lovejoy, Chairperson
- Jon Sobczak, Superintendent
- Bonnie Gordon
- Sue Cox
- Roger Kilgore – Absent due to work commitments
- Kathy Rhoads – Arrived 5 minutes after start due to work commitments

Meeting Summary:

The parks work session was not able to accomplish the agenda due to the lack of complete reports.

The committee members outlined the reports that would be needed for the next work session. Kathy Rhoads will discuss these needs with Jim Carrick on or before, September 13.

Brief discussions on future efforts that need to be considered when we discuss the 1 year and 5 year budget include:

- The need to dress up the parks to attract kids and young families.
  - Refurbished and new playground equipment
  - Grills by picnic areas
  - Additional cannon for Memorial Park to alleviate concerns that remains over the removal of the present cannon to Cy Hewitt, which occurred many years ago.
  - Repairs to the current trail in low lying areas where water collects
  - Maintenance to edges that are crumpling
  - Addition of a water feature like a splash pad or water umbrella that re-circulates water.
  - Replacement of mower and other equipment.
- Additional internal reports are needed by Jon on a weekly and monthly basis to track expenses, remaining budget and fund balances.
- There is a need to reorganize the parks and streets budgets.
  - Personnel are shared with Streets, so personnel cost should come from one line item rather than the current inaccurate allocation between parks and streets.
  - We need to establish line items for certain budget/expenses so the detail of the budget is clear and easier to manage.



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- We need to recognize economies of scale by sharing the available equipment between streets and parks and planning for large expenditures from one account not many.
- Run for the Trails money is an example of a fund that would remain separate and distinct as it has a specific purpose solely for the parks. There are other examples of distinct funds that would remain solely for either streets or parks, but handling the budget as one would alleviate issues of having one superintendent responsible for two budgets where only one department actually exists.
- The need for part-time help was discussed. This would be someone who would work on a limited basis and handle the smaller maintenance chores and daily trash pick from the parks.
- The next work session is scheduled for Tuesday, September 21, 2010 and will be held in the Conference Room adjacent to Council Chambers. Jim Lovejoy spoke with Mayor Carter subsequent to the 9/8 work session to request this be advertised. Mayor has contacted the papers and has a receipt verifying the advertisement.