



MARATHON COUNTY PARK COMMISSION AGENDA

Date and Time of Meeting: Tuesday, July 30, 2024 at 10:00 am

Meeting Location: 900 Pardee St, Wausau WI 54401 (Park Operations Building)

The meeting site identified above will be open to the public. Persons wishing to attend the meeting by phone may call into the telephone conference beginning ten minutes prior to the start time indicated above using the following number: 1-408-418-9388 Access code: 2485 875 4249. When you enter the telephone conference, PLEASE PUT YOUR PHONE ON MUTE!

Park Commission Members -

Commissioners: Jeff Frese, Lou Larson, Jean Maszk, Tom Neal, Allen Opall, Rick Seefeldt, Sarah Watson

***Marathon County Mission Statement:** Marathon County Government serves people by leading, coordinating, and providing county, regional, and statewide initiatives. It directly or in cooperation with other public and private partners provides services and creates opportunities that make Marathon County and the surrounding area a preferred place to live, work, visit, and do business. (Last updated: 12-20-05)*

***Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department Mission Statement:** Adaptively manage our park and forest lands for natural resource sustainability while providing healthy recreational opportunities and unique experiences making Marathon County the preferred place to live, work, and play.*

Agenda Items

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Public Comment Period – Not to Exceed 15 Minutes – Any Person Who Wishes to Address the Commission Must Provide, Name, Address and the Topic to the President of the Commission No Later than Five Minutes Before the Start of the Meeting. Topics must be relevant to the Committee’s area of jurisdiction.**
- 3. Approval of the Minutes of the July 2, 2024 Park Commission Meeting**
- 4. Policy Issues for Discussion and Committee Determination**
 - A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee
 1. Meeting Locations
 2. October Camping in Marathon Park
 3. 2024 Deer Hunt in Big Eau Pleine
 4. YMCA Temporary Usage of Yawkey Park
 5. Riverlife Wharf Water Update and Plan
- 5. Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance or Resolution:**
 - A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee
 1. None
 - B. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee to Forward to the Environmental Resource Committee for its Consideration
 1. None
- 6. Policy Issues for Discussion and Committee Determination for Consideration by Environmental Resources Committee**
 - A. None

7. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports

- A. Project Update (Airport Sports Park, Athletic Park, Barker Stewart Island, Forest Park, Oak Island Park, Riverlife Park, Paff Woods, Tenth Street Park, Woodson Park, Park Maintenance, Big Eau Pleine Park, DC Everest Park, Marathon Park, Mission Lake Park, Events)

8. Announcements

- A. Next Meeting Date & Time, Location – September 3, 2024 at 10:30 am at 212 River Dr, Room 5, Wausau WI 54403
- B. Future Agenda Items – Beach Water Quality Monitoring, Intergovernmental Agreement, 2025-2026 Fee Schedule and Tenth Street Wall Repairs

9. Adjourn

Signed /s/ Jamie Polley
 Presiding Officer or Her
 Designee

Any person planning to attend this meeting who needs some type of special accommodation in order to participate should call the County Clerk's Office at 715-261-1500 or e-mail countyclerk@co.marathon.wi.us one business day before the meeting.

FAXED TO DAILY HERALD
 COURTHOUSE

THIS NOTICE POSTED AT THE

(Email/Fax City Pages, Marshfield News, Midwest Radio Group)

Date July 25, 2024 Time 4:30 p.m.
 By Marcus Aumann

Date _____ Time _____
 By _____

AGENDA SUMMARY

4A1. Discussion and Possible Action Related to Meeting Locations

Staff is suggesting that the monthly meeting rotate between a city location and a county location due to the Park Commission being a City/County Commission. If the Commission is agreeable to this change, staff will secure the locations for the remaining 2024 meeting dates.

4A2. Discussion and Possible Action Operating Marathon Park Campground in October

The Park Commission moved to allow camping in Marathon Park campground by pre-registration only beginning in 2024. This process has gone very well. With the change to pre-registration only, the infrastructure that had been in the campground for self-registration has been removed to avoid confusion. In 2023 the Park Commission chose to close the MP campground early in October due to vandalism and unpaid campers. For reference the revenue received from October camping in Marathon park was \$572.75 in 2023 (partial month), \$170.60 in 2022 and \$24.64 in 2021.

Our materials state that October in all campgrounds is self-registration only on a first come first serve basis. With the self-registration infrastructure being removed, the Park Commission is asked to decide if we continue to require pre-registration only in Marathon Park for the month of October or should the campground be closed September 30th.

4A3. Discussion and Possible Action Establishing an Archery Hunting Season in Big Eau Pleine Park

At the July Park Commission meeting we discussed a second year for an archery deer hunt in Big Eau Pleine County Park. Commission members moved to hold another hunt in Big Eau Pleine County Park in 2024. Staff was asked to come back to the commission with further information regarding holding a special hunt such as what the cap on the number of permits might be, if people need a license, and if there is a better way to track number of deer harvested. Staff did reach out to the DNR Wildlife Biologist and will present the information gathered to the Commission.

4A4. Discussion and Possible Action Allowing Temporary Usage of Yawkey Park by the YMCA for a Childcare Play Area

The YMCA will be improving their downtown location by increasing the square footage of the Landing and adding a walkway across 3rd Street. To do this work their current outdoor childcare play area will be impacted requiring them to find another location. The YMCA is required to have an outdoor play area as a licensed childcare facility. The YMCA is requesting the temporary use of a portion of Yawkey Park for the childcare play area. The space needed is 1,890 sq ft so they can meet the licensing code. Their request is to begin using it in August through the conclusion of the project. Their requested location is included on a drawing attached to the packet. They are flexible on the location.

The Park Commission is asked to approve or deny this request.

4A5. Discussion, Possible Action and Update on the Riverlife Wharf Water

Staff has been asked to look into why the water has never been connected to the drinking fountain and shower at the Riverlife Wharf. Here is a summary of what we know, Miron constructed the Wharf and was responsible for the water to the shower and water fountain. Miron ran a water lateral and a sewer lateral to the wharf to serve it. Nearing the completion of the project Miron was not able to get a pressure test on the water line that was underneath the concrete poured for the wharf. Miron attempted to fix the leak over the next year but could not isolate the leak and the issue was ongoing but under the warranty and Miron was responsible for the fix. Then entered the developer who came onto the vacant lot and began to dig the basement. They hit the water and sewer line and actually pulled out the water line from under the concrete. Miron then said it was no longer their responsibility since the developer broke the line somewhere under the wharf concrete. We were attempting to work with the developer to

fix the line with Miron. The developer pulled off the site and the City was left with a fountain and shower with no water and an undetermined sewer lateral.

Parks, Engineering and Water Department staff met at the Wharf this past week and determined that there are multiple breaks in the water line and the condition of the unconnected sewer lateral is unknown. The amount of work could be extensive to find all the breaks and also to determine what, if anything, is remaining of each line. It is the plan that when the vacant site adjacent to the wharf is developed that the city work with the developer to connect a new water and sewer line. In the meantime, staff is recommending we relocate the fountain to a location north along the trail (see drawing) and remove the shower tower.

If the Park Commission concurs, staff will complete these changes.

7A. Project Update

City

Airport Sports Park: Completed parking lot upgrade.

Athletic Park: The smaller scoreboard was hit by a fly ball and was malfunctions, it is currently operating correctly however we do have parts on order.

Barker-Stewart Island: The goats were introduced again this year from July 8 through July 20. The completed another round of vegetation management. Residents were allowed to meet the goats on July 16th. We had a great turnout.

Forest Park: The shelter roof was repaired and re-shingled. The storm related tree damage work has been completed.

Oak Island Park: The restroom lot was paved by DPW and relandscaping is underway.

RiverLife Park: The compressor has been replaced at Briq's building and leaper fountains are running.

Paff Woods: The boardwalk repairs needed due to storm damage are ongoing.

Tenth Street Park: The rock wall tuckpoint work is ongoing. A discussion on more permanent repairs will be presented to the Commission at a future meeting.

Woodson Park: We are working on getting more jets to work on the kayak fountain. It appears that only two of the 5 have been working for quite some time.

Park Maintenance: Woodchips were added to some playgrounds that were low.

County

Big Eau Pleine Park: Storm damage work that has been ongoing is completed. Conservation Planning and Zoning received a grant to begin testing the water at the beach in Big Eau Pleine. We will be working with them on this three-year program.

DC Everest Park: We now have one restroom open, the other restroom is waiting for the paper product dispensers. We will need to then complete the restoration work.

Marathon Park: Fair prep is fully underway, with the assistance of the fair board the sanitary lines from the new cattle wash station were repaired and improved. We also completed a power line project in the horse arena.

Mission Lake Park: The open shelter roof was re-shingled.

Events: Nine Mile: Wausau 24 race July 27-28

Peoples Sports Complex: Hmong Festival event was 7/26 through 7/28

Wisconsin Valley Fair in Marathon Park July 30-August 4

DRAFT
MARATHON COUNTY PARK COMMISSION

Date and Time of Meeting: July 2, 2024 at 10:30am Location: Room 5 at 212 River Dr., Wausau WI 54403

Park Commissioners present: Jeff Frese, Lou Larson, Jean Maszk, Allen Opall, Rick Seefeldt, Sarah Watson

Park Commissioners excused: Tom Neal

Staff present: Jamie Polley - Parks, Recreation and Forestry Director, Andy Sims-Assistant Director of Operations, Jamie Alberti - Corporation Counsel Paralegal

1. Call to Order – Polley called the Park Commission meeting to order at 10:30 am. Official notice and the agenda for the meeting was posted publicly in accordance with the State statutes.

2. Public Comment – none brought forward.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the June 4, 2024 Park Commission Meeting – **Motion** by Maszk, second by Opall to approve the June 4, 2024 meeting minutes. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 6-0.

4. Policy Issues for Discussion and Committee Determination

A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee

1. Election of Officers – Nomination and Election of President and Vice President – Nominations for President were opened. **Motion** by Opall, second by Larson to nominate Seefeldt for President. Nominations were closed and a unanimous ballot was cast to elect Seefeldt as President. Nominations were opened for Vice-President. **Motion** by Maszk, second by Larson to nominate Watson as Vice-President. Nominations were closed and a unanimous ballot was cast to elect Watson as Vice-President.

2. Park Commission Representative for the Wausau and Marathon County Parks and Recreation Foundation – Polley explained that The Wausau and Marathon County Parks Foundation is a 501c3 foundation that supports the City of Wausau and Marathon County park systems. The Park Commission has a seat on the foundation board. Commission is asked to elect a representative to serve on the foundation board which meets every other month on the third Tuesday at 4:00 pm. Frese said he would attend the next meeting to see if he likes it. Seefeldt said if anyone else is interested they could attend that next meeting also.

3. Proclamation Designating July as Park and Recreation Month – Polley said the National Park and Recreation Association has always designated July as Park and Recreation month. They encourage people to use the hashtags they provide which are sent to a national database to help with advocacy. **Motion** by Maszk, second by Watson to declare designating July as park and recreation month. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 6-0.

4. 2024 Deer Hunt in Big Eau Pleine – Polley explained that the 2024 deer hunt was a general hunt during the later part of the archery season. Staff only received five responses regarding a survey about numbers of deer seen and/or harvested. On the first morning of the hunt one of the deputies reported seeing over fifty cars. Polley also received some feedback from an adjacent landowner. Staff hadn't heard of any issues during the hunt. Polley questioned if Commission would like to hold another hunt the same way or else they could do a special hunt and get more accurate numbers about the harvest. Discussion followed. **Motion** by Larson, second by Opall to hold another deer hunt at the Big Eau Pleine Park. Polley will provide members with information from the State about holding a special hunt such as what the cap on the number of permits might be, if people need a license, and she will verify if they can track a hunt better that way. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 6-0.

5. Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance or Resolution:

A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee - None

B. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee to Forward the Environmental Resource Committee for its Consideration - None

6. Policy Issues for Discussion and Committee Determination for Consideration by Environmental Resources Committee

A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee - None

7. Educational Presentation/Outcome Monitoring Reports for Discussion

A. Project Update – 400 Block – The stage caulk has been replaced. Clean up of the previous caulk staining will follow and be completed by park staff. Drinking Fountains – 3M, Riverside and Alexander Airport Park had the new water fountains installed. Athletic Park – Meter/valve project has been completed and new meter box installed. Brockmeyer Park – We are working on a potential water leak at JoJo’s Splashpad. Believe we may have found the issue. More investigation is needed and we will have it up and running as soon as possible. Hammond Park – The light in the gazebo has been installed in partnership with Wausau PD. Riverlife – Briqs AC compressor failed due to a lightning strike and the replacement is in progress. The new compressor should be delivered early July. Woodson – New drain system poured to eliminate grates that continue to break during snow removal. Events – Youth baseball is winding down on the city fields, Chalkfest was held at the 400 Block, Wings over Wausau at Airport went off smoothly, Fireworks will be held at the airport on July 4th. Urban Forestry – Storm cleanup from 6/24. Many branches and limbs down in the parks and within the city. Other – Homeless leaving many items behind at Bull Falls Gazebo. PD has posted a sign to remove belongings. Amco – The new playground has been completed (curb, chips, parking lot restoration and turf restoration) Big Eau Pleine – Storm damage restoration is underway (washout grading, repairs from down trees) Bluegill – The new dock was installed, kiosk information area completed, repairs to end of launch (added large rip rap), and a Girl Scout will be constructing a Lifejacket Loaner Station on 6/29 Marathon Park – EGH kitchen has been updated and new playground Burke side completed (except PIP) the second structure is scheduled for later July Dells of Eau Claire – Working on washouts on the trails from the storms. Events – Sports complex continues to be very busy, looking forward to Hmong Fest at the end of July at the Sports Complex, Sunnyvale continues to be busy with American Legion, WASA and tournaments. We had 3 straight weekends of tournaments.

8. Announcements

A. Next Meeting Date & Time, Location – Tue., July 30, 2024 at 10:00am, Park Operations, 900 Pardee Street, Wausau WI 54401 followed by a joint meeting with the Fair Board at 11:00 am at the Fairboard Office, North Wing of the Exhibition Building, Marathon Park, 1201 Stewart Ave., Wausau WI 54401

B. Future Agenda Items – Intergovernmental Agreement to Provide Park Services for the City of Wausau

9. Adjourn - Motion by Maszk, second by Opall to adjourn the meeting at 11:35 am. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 6-.



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Grant St

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Google

Woodson YMCA
Wausau Branch



