

PALMER TOWNSHIP RECREATION BOARD
April 19, 2022
7:00 PM
GENERAL MEETING

The Palmer Township Recreation Board held a General meeting on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at 7:00 pm at the Charles Chrin Community Center. The following were in attendance: Vice-Chair Cheryl Nielsen, Darryl Keckler, Thom Lee and Angelo Stambolis. Also, in attendance was Dan McKinney, Director of Parks and Recreation, Jeff Young, Chairman of the Palmer Township Board of Supervisors and Jim Farley, Palmer Township Director of Finance

Thom Lee called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

1. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approval of Minutes – March 2022.

INFORMATION

The Board needs to approve/disapprove the minutes of March 2022.

Motion: Approve, Moved by Angelo Stambolis, Seconded by Thom Lee
Passed. 3-0.

Board Members voting Ayes: Keckler, Lee, Stambolis

2. OLD BUSINESS

A. Funds

INFORMATION

Young explained that he asked Farley to come to this meeting in order to answer questions that this Recreation Board might have on Developer's money and the Palmer Youth Center. Farley explained that Young had mentioned if he could attend and clarify the General Fund budget which includes 16 to 18 funds in it, trash, sewer, etc. and additional funds for future capital, separate from what recreation developers do, different revenue streams. Farley further explained 1.5 million in Rec capital fund for 2022, 389,000 certificate of deposit, updates, and renews every year/years and that there is a concern on what was budgeted.

1. Turf CD – 10 years
2. Stevens St Park – 9500 to replace outdated baby swing sets
3. Pool – 50,000 roof replacement
4. LaBarre Park – 12,000 for site lights on the exterior for security
5. Youth Center Project – 200,000

6. Fairview Park – Walkway lights and security camera
7. Penn Pump Park - \$45,000
8. Money for land acquisition, not used often but budget for

Young explained about the Berks St compose, we do not own all that land and when the smaller lot come up for same, we try to buy them. Farley explained outside of 1.5 million. Young explained the money of that 1.5 million for improvements, we are careful not to run out. The Youth Center 200,000 is developer money. Lee stated that different people have approached him to explain it. He reached out to Dave Colver about the money for township projects. The Youth Center is not a township project, how come it is ear marked as a township project and further explained he did not have an answer and still does not have a clarification of what money can be used for Recreation? Young clarified that the way it is set up is when it is done, it gets turned over to the township and fund raising is coming up short, Palmer Athletic Association is going to put money in, when we rolled forward and made the change for the Palmer AA into a separate fund. Young stated that he knows that there is a public appeal coming and hopefully soon.

Cheryl Nielsen entered the meeting at 7:18pm.

Lee asked what can be spent? What can Recreation Development Funds be spent for? McKinney also stated he did not know for what? Farley introduced himself to Nielsen and Young recapped. Farley stated he spoke to Tom Adams, the Director of Public Works and the township engineer and was told that 200,000 would be for exterior things. Aside from the 1.5 million, the money being spend out of this fund is:

1. Rose Garden
2. Fire
3. Police
4. Turf
5. Recreation
6. Youth Capital Recreation

McKinney explained that 35,000 of the Recreation Fees is money we collect from the Turf Field out of the CCCC budget. Farley commented that the solution was still to contribute but put in a fund. McKinney commented that the Recreation Board needed this clarification. Young further explained that twenty-four in the first year, forty-eight in the second year and another 72 this year and at some point, was going to ask you. LVHN has gotten money to put a scoreboard in but now needs trench, power and a stand and was going to ask for a recommendation to grant money for the southwest corner, this is an example of what funds are used for. Nielsen questioned what the scoreboard would be for? Farley explained 72,900 and we would just put less that amount that is needed and he thinks the Recreation Board should be consulted and that the Recreation Board and the Palmer AA should work together. Lee stated he does not know what the Palmer AA has in finances and he was under the impression that they were independent. Keckler questioned if 2022 was the first year? McKinney explained that 2023 will be the first year and that nothing has been put into writing. Keckler stated that he remembered this conversation from way before and that once they were weaned off of township money, they would let us know if there was

something they needed. McKinney commented that the Palmer AA financials were always on their website and they have the best position so maybe the Recreation Board should request their financials. Lee stated that he thought we were going to be part of each other's meetings? Farley explained that this is the appropriate use of this fund, scoreboard is capital, long term use. The request is within the scope and will benefit everyone. Young acknowledged that Lee is right, the Palmer AA should come here and ask for a recommendation. Keckler questioned "Is that why you are both here?" directing the question to Young and Farley. Nielsen questioned that once the scoreboard is up, does it become the property of the township? Farley confirmed yes. Nielsen suggested that maybe we should review our pact with the Palmer AA. McKinney confirmed it needs to be defined. Young stated as a supervisor, I will never vote to have the Palmer AA pay to use our facilities. Nielsen stated they are not the township anymore, they are a separate entity, sometimes they overstep their boundaries and keep asking for more and then asked if we paid for their goals? McKinney explained that they came out of operating expenses. At some point it has to be written down. Five years ago, we were getting half the gate of wrestling tournaments and now five years later getting \$150.00. We are all here to support them but at some point it has to be laid out on paper. Farley explained Operating Expenses vs Capital Expenses, it is still in the possession of the township. He hopes there would be dialog between both groups. Lee stated we went over the 144 in the capital recreation fund but maybe they could tell what they are putting back into the kids. McKinney commented that is a great way to establish procedure ethics. Keckler stated that it would definitely help us and it's a good chance to show our relationship. Farley explained that big ticket items that need to be paid, the township is putting money away for these reasons. Recreation Capital Fund CD <-> Youth Capital Recreation. Money that gets put into the fund is not coming out of Recreation Developer fees, coming from the budget, Recreation Impact Fee, seventy-two coming from Operational part of 390 from this year, if it is used for the scoreboard, then less will be put in (under 72). Good position because of future development. Young explained that is goes by acreage in lieu of open space. Lee stated he can let Dave Dumpel know to attend to discuss recommendation. McKinney emphasized that communication needs to be between all parties, this Board has been bypassed. Nielsen sadly stated that we lost all our authority and we are just here so you can get rec funds. Stambolis asked if this is a pathway to be established? McKinney answered yes, it is. Farley stated that AA is for Youth, Recreation Board is for township and if all work together it makes the Board of Supervisors job easier. McKinney – Proposed Recreation Contribution – list given out – who decides the fees? Young explained that Planning Commission, explained the bike trail from St Janes and the attempt. Comprehensive Plan lays the foundation and Cyndi Carman Kramer executes. Discussion occurred on how the fees are determined and practices.

Darryl Keckler exited the meeting at 8:08pm.

Angelo Stambolis made a motion that we accept the payment in lieu of open space for Easton Senior Living and the construction of an 8-foot sidewalk bike path in lieu of fees for St Janes Church Facilities

Motion: Seconded by Thom Lee.
Passed. 3-0.

Board Members voting Ayes: Lee, Nielsen, Stambolis

B. Pickleball Courts

INFORMATION

Young made a statement that the Recreation Board recommended that Pickleball Courts at Fairview be brought up to the BOS for these courts to get budgeted. Farley commented that it is all part of the budget process. He also stated that he took it to the BOS. Nielsen asked about the water drainage needing to be redirected. Young commented that it could be in the budget by the end of summer. Lee commented that it is highly recommended.

3. Director's Report

INFORMATION

McKinney disclosed the pool numbers and explained that we might be opening up memberships to Non-Residents. Stambolis questioned does the free senior pass included Non-Residents? McKinney answered that they pay a fee. Pool is a very big part of camp. Nielsen asked if the pool still had the lane for seniors when packed? McKinney answered yes and it is most of the time always filled. Nielsen also questioned if there were more spots being opened up for camp? McKinney asked Stambolis if the driving attendants for the Egg Hunt were necessary. Stambolis answered "Absolutely." McKinney thanked everyone and specifically thanked Nielsen for their help with the Easter Egg Hunt and will talk with everyone to coordinate the next one. McKinney also stated that the Miracle League is looking for volunteers for their concession stand on June 11th and June 18th.

4. New Business

INFORMATION

None

5. Egg Hunt

INFORMATION

McKinney asked Stambolis if the driving attendants for the Egg Hunt were necessary. Stambolis answered "Absolutely." McKinney thanked everyone and specifically thanked Nielsen for their help with the Easter Egg Hunt and will talk with everyone to coordinate the next one.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Thom Lee made a motion to reconvene the meeting at 8:32 pm, the motion was seconded by Angelo Stambolis.

Board Members voting Ayes: Lee, Nielsen, Stambolis
Passed. 3-0.

Next meeting May 17, 2022 at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Lazarus
Corresponding Secretary