

**MINUTES**  
**Wilton Parks & Recreation Commission**  
**February 9, 2022 / 7:30 PM**  
**Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

Attendees:

- A) Commissioners: Bilella, Macken, Ring, Guglielmo, Kendra
- B) Director of P&R: Pierce
- C) Ex Officio: None
- D) Public: Frank Smeriglio (Guest speaker), Nick Gemelli, Jason Partenza, WB, Barbara (Zoom names used)

- I. Call to Order – Bilella called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm.
- II. Approval of Minutes for January 12, 2022 – Ring made a motion to approve the minutes, Bilella seconded. **Approved 3-0-1** (Guglielmo abstained and Kendra late to Feb meeting.)
- III. Correspondence – discussion and/or action
  - Pierce reported there was none this month.
- IV. Fiscal Year Budget – discussion and/or action
  - Pierce walked through budgets (operations and self-sustaining) and capital worksheet with Commissioners. Pierce pointed out various highlights, including an increase in salaries stemming from an increase in minimum wage to \$14/hour and an additional Grounds headcount added to the P&R Dept.
  - Material increases in demand in various programs such as dog obedience training, dance, baseball, and basketball.
  - Capital plan includes equipment replacement and gym lighting retrofit.
- V. Indoor Field House Project Concept Exploration Update – discussion and/or action
  - Report from Stantec to be reviewed and discussed with Town representatives in the coming weeks. Budget and other demands have taken priority this month.
- VI. Mitigation Plan Update – discussion and/or action
  - Smeriglio (Director of DPW and a Town engineer) provided an update along with Pierce to the Commission. Friday is the next meeting with Stantec to walk through the existing model and to start developing various options (including what if another turf field was added to the complex) along with cost ranges.
- VII. Lightening Detection System Update – discussion and/or action
  - Pierce advised the weather has caused a delay, and the installation of the system is now three weeks out. The installation will take three days and will be completed prior to the start of WHS and Youth spring sports on April 1.
- VIII. Drainage & Irrigation Project – discussion and/or action
  - Pierce, Smeriglio, and Guglielmo all provided an update on the project and walked the Commission through a field list. Estimated to be \$8K-12K per field for design phase. Federal

grant money will be used for this effort. RFP drafting to be started now and a priority list of fields will be finalized.

- New Street property to be reviewed to see if it could possibly be used for a field.

IX. Staff Reports – discussion and/or action

Pierce reported:

- Parks & Grounds Report:
  - Focus on snow removal and getting all equipment ready for spring.
  - Two offers have been extended for the two open P&R Department jobs. Anticipate start dates to be in the coming week.
- Recreation Report
  - Brochures for Spring and Summer in progress.
  - Event planning for summer has started.
  - Applications being accepted for seasonal help.
  - Looking at a new playground for Merwin Meadows.

X. Member Comment – None.

XI. Public Comment – None.

XII. Adjourn – Bilella made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 pm, Guglielmo seconded.

**Approved 5-0-0.**