

May 17, 2022 – Special Meeting

A special meeting of the Gardiner Town Board was held this evening at 7 PM for the purposes of discussing Lazy River Campground, and Parks & Recreation. This meeting was held as a hybrid, in person and on Zoom. Present were Supervisor Majestic and Councilmembers Carucci, Richman, Walls and Wiegand. There were approximately 38± audience members present.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Ilka Casey spoke to the Town Board about several items beginning with the basketball court. They are waiting for the post to be filled with concrete so the hoops can be used. Also discussed was the quotes for the surface coating. Parks & Recreation recommends the 4-coat surface quoted by Craftco at a cost of \$27,900. A motion was made by Supervisor Majestic, seconded by Councilmember Carucci and carried, authorizing the Parks & Recreation to move forward with the Craftco quote. Quotes were received for a bottle filling station. Parks & Recreation is recommending a freestanding bottle filler at a cost of approximately \$7,000+. On motion of Supervisor Majestic, seconded by Councilmember Carucci and carried, Parks & Recreation were authorized to move forward. Funding will come from ARP. Ilka discussed the replacement of the fencing at the skatepark, the fence along the entrance of the park, the Town Hall ballfield and the transfer station. They are awaiting quotes from Pulaski Fence and DeWitt Mills Fence. The organization Abilities in Bloom has created a proposal for plantings at Majestic Park. This will be done as a community project and beautification of the park. The ballfield at both the park and at the Town Hall have serious drainage issues and Parks and Recreation is proposing that an engineer take a look at how the issues can be resolved. Another suggestion from the committee was to do away with the softball field at the park and just have the Town Hall ballfield designated as a softball field. Much to be discussed here and it was suggested that this be addressed at budget time. Finally, the Board discussed the park classification, Arbor Day tree event and the schedule 5K Dump Run.

LAZY RIVER CAMPGROUND FLOATING DISTRICT

Allyson Phillips, attorney for the Town of Gardiner and Charles Gottlieb, attorney for Lazy River were present to review with the Town Board the Lazy River Campground Floating District application along with the requested waivers. Supervisor Majestic first read a letter received from Fire Chief Matthew Goodnow regarding the new cabins recently installed and the removal of the hitch. Attorney Phillips explained the Special Use Permit application, the waiver requests and the timeline since submission. Attorney Gottlieb was accompanied by Scott Masopust, campground manager and several other employees of the campground. Mr. Gottlieb addressed the hitch issue and fire concern expressed in a letter from by Chief Goodnow of the Gardiner Fire Department. All cabins are in compliance for spacing and distance. Eight RVs are without hitches and they will be re-attached. There are 12 separate waiver requests made by Lazy River. Park Models – 14 new models to date for a total of 21 since January. Park models will replace seasonal sites.

Noise – noise emanated from the property destroys the tranquility for neighbors of the campground and beyond. Councilmember Wiegand asked that all noise complaints received be compiled and sent to the Town Board. Attorney Gottlieb stated that there has been no amplified noise and the noise is limited to normal everyday use.

Enforcement was discussed, both internal and external. A narrative was sent to the Town regarding the campground's security plan.

Build better relationships/communication between the Town of Gardiner and Lazy River. Councilmember Carucci suggested doing multiple sound studies/noise monitoring.

Increasing landscaping to mitigate sound.

The Town Board decided to schedule a public hearing for June 7, 2022 at 7 PM on the Campground Floating District application. A motion was made by Councilmember Walls, seconded by Councilmember Richman and carried.

EV CHARGING STATION RATES

Rate for use of the EV Charging Station located at the municipal parking lot on Farmers Turnpike will be increasing from \$.25/per kilowatt hour to \$.35/kilowatt hour beginning June 1, 2022. A motion was made by Supervisor Majestic, seconded by Councilmember Walls and carried, accepting this increase.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Suzanne Levirne – commented that Lazy River has always violated the RV size restriction.

Janine Brutvan – sound travels across the river and is amplified as it travels.

Jill Berger – water usage, waste discharge, viewshed, expansion of the sites, light pollution, noise pollution and campfires are a concern. It looks like a trailer park and the corporation has no regard for the neighbors and their quality of life.

Mark Stutzman – complained about the use of the former Lobster Pound property. Lazer tag and a haunted house experience is held there. The campground does not have any permits on this property to allow this. Other concerns are traffic and an evacuation plan. It's presence creates a terrible environment throughout the Town. Please do not consider the waivers – protect the Town from expansion.

Nathan Figg – This is not a campground – it is an amusement park.

Lydia Brutvan – the repeated noise has made it impossible for her to finish her academic year at home. The campground is disrespectful to the neighbors and the community. Don't reward violations with waivers.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilmember Walls, seconded by Councilmember Wiegand and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle L. Mosher
Town Clerk