

## COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT – JULY 12, 2021

---

**Members:** Ressler, Chairman; Barr, Vice Chairman; Martin, Member; Dudley, Alternate

**Attendees:** Ressler, Chairman; Barr, Vice Chairman; Martin, Member; Dudley, Alternate; Kimmel, Citizen Member; Rowe, Summers, Thompson, Harris, Visitors (4, Caruthers, Beres and 2 others)

The Community Services Committee met on June 28, 2021, and discussed the following:

### **Action Items:**

1. In 2020 the Borough received a Community Development Block Grant for improvements at Grater Park. A bid was awarded and the work was completed this year. One part of the project was for a new roof on the Eicher Museum. During the installation, the contractor found rotted wood that needed to be replaced. Another part of the project was to replace a mulched playground surface with rubberized material. The mulched area is lined with landscaping timbers. Some of the timbers were rotted and needed to be replaced. These two issues were not part of the original bid and a change order was issued in order to complete the work. Since the amount spent is different than what was bid, Council will need to ratify the change order. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council ratify the Change Order issued April 28, 2021 for the Grater Park Project in the amount of \$9,410.84 at their July meeting.
2. The Committee reviewed a proposal for professional engineering services to design the trailhead restroom facilities located near the Fulton Street parking lot. Hanover Engineering will provide design services for a year-round restroom located near the bike shed for \$28,700. There will be separate facilities for men and women and they will be handicap accessible. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council authorize the President of Borough Council and Borough Secretary to execute the proposal with Hanover Engineering at the July Borough Council meeting subject to it being in a form acceptable to the Borough Solicitor.
3. The Committee reviewed a request from Fulton School to place small US flags by the Winters Memorial prior to Veterans Day and Memorial Day (2022). They will remove the flags after each holiday. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council grant the request at the July meeting subject to receipt of a certificate of insurance naming the Borough as additional insured.
4. The Committee reviewed a proposal for professional engineering services from Hanover Engineering to prepare plans for the infrastructure of the dog park at a cost of \$12,000. The extent of the work the Borough will provide is fencing, parking lot, stormwater management facilities, buffer plantings (if required) and water to the site. The citizen committee will be providing the amenities such as play structures, seating and shade structures. Mrs. Martin suggested that it would be best to get the staff and the citizen groups together in September. Based on the availability of the consultant, the time it takes for the design and approval process, this probably won't get constructed until late spring or early summer of 2022. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council authorize the President of Borough Council and Borough Secretary to execute the proposal with Hanover Engineering at the July Borough Council meeting subject to it being in a form acceptable to the Borough Solicitor.

5. The Committee reviewed a request from the Ephrata Public Library to apply for a Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund Grant. The library would use the funds to replace the existing lighting with LED fixtures. As part of the grant submission, the library is requesting that the Borough be a sponsor on the application and provide a grant match of \$12,500. The library will prepare and submit the grant application. The library estimates that the lighting costs would drop from \$17,000 annually to \$6,000 annually. The library has received a quote for the cost of the lamps and the fixtures, but they are still waiting on an estimate for the installation costs. After some discussion, it was decided to increase the match amount to a not-to-exceed amount of \$20,000. This will be an unbudgeted expenditure. The higher amount will provide a buffer in the event the installation estimation forces the project cost over \$25,000. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council authorize the President of Borough Council to sign the application as a sponsor for the grant application for LED lighting and offer an unbudgeted match of a not to exceed amount of \$20,000 at the July meeting.

**Discussion Items:**

1. Rec Center Executive Director Summers updated the Committee on the status of 2021 pool operations. The year-to-date revenues exceed the 2019 year-to-date amounts. They have been experiencing a shortage of lifeguards and had to increase their wages by approximately \$2/hour in order to be competitive with other pools and facilities. The staff closes off sections of the pool based on staffing levels and they have allowed more overtime as needed. The occupancy numbers have fluctuated, but a few days they turned away day-passers because of the high number of people already within the facility. The staff only had to call the Police once to remove a group of youths. The constable began on June 13<sup>th</sup>. The staff removed 3 groups of people for not following the rules. The Committee suggested that the Rec review the life guard wages next year to make them competitive.

**Old Business Items:**

1. None.

**Miscellaneous Items:**

1. None.