

## **Park and Rec Meeting Minutes February 8, 2021**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mike Carey.

Present were Mike Carey, Jessica Boelman, Nicole Bower, Jordan Johnson, Josh Lindgren, Denise Williamson, Terry Holmes, and Jane Kansier from Bolton & Menk. The meeting was held via zoom.

Jane Kansier from Bolton & Menk talked about the DNR Recreation Grant program. The grant is a 50/50 match with a minimum of \$20,000 and maximum of \$250,000. It is a reimbursable grant. The application deadline is March 31<sup>st</sup> and will be awarded in July 2021, the money will be available in the fall of 2021 and the project needs to be completed by June 2022. It was discussed to update the Town Hall park and include the picnic shelter and basketball court. Denise and Jane will present the grant to the Town Board for approval to move forward and to get an amount the Town Board is willing to spend. Jane will join us again on February 22<sup>nd</sup> to move forward with plans. Denise will reach out to Flagship Recreation to get some preliminary plans for Town Hall park.

Discussion was held regarding summer programs for the 2021. Many surrounding communities are opening all their programs. The Park & Rec commission recommends to the Town Board that Empire Township resume summer activities in full capacity including Sunday night entertainment, Empire Celebration, ballfields open, bathrooms open and concessions. With social distancing guidelines in place.

There is still a spot vacant on the Park & Rec commission. Everyone was encouraged to help fill that spot.

Next meeting will be Monday, February 22, 2021.

Submitted by Denise Williamson