

### Department of Public Works & Parks Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division Janny Familia Way, Worcester, MA 01605

50 Officer Manny Familia Way, Worcester, MA 01605

P | 508-799-1190 F | 508-799-1293
parks@worcesterma.gov

### PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday November 30, 2023 - 6:30 P.M.

Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Administrative Office

Meeting Room A

50 Officer Manny Familia Way Worcester, MA 01605

Or

### If you choose to use the Microsoft Teams platform:

- 1) Go to www.teams.com
- 2) Enter Meeting ID# 234 605 032 703
  - 3) Enter password: ziPrQT

### If you choose to attend via phone:

- 1) Call 1-469-998-7682
- 2) Enter Meeting ID#: 140 222 865#

If technological problems interrupt the virtual meeting component, the meeting will continue in-person.

### **AGENDA**

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Attendance (Roll Call)
- 3. Acceptance of the Minutes for September 28, 2023 & October 26, 2023 (Roll Call)
- 4. To request a reasonable accommodation or interpretation or submit written comments or questions in advance of the meeting, please contact the Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division by email at <a href="Parks@worcesterma.gov">Parks@worcesterma.gov</a>. Please note that interpretation requests must be received no later than 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Para solicitar una interpretacion razonable, o enviar comentarios o preguntas por escrito por favor comuniquese con la oficina de la Division de Parques, Recreo & Cementerio por correo electronico a <a href="Parks@worcesterma.gov">Parks@worcesterma.gov</a>. Por favor note que las solicitudes de interpretacion deberan ser enviadas 48 horas antes de la reunion.
- 5. Public Participation Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021 and in order to ensure active, public engagement, the City of Worcester currently allows for both in person and remote participation at the Parks & Recreation Commission meetings. To partake in the "Public Participation" section of this meeting, you may join us directly within the 50 Officer Manny Familia Way Meeting Room A, follow the information above to join via the Teams application or dial the direct line as indicated. If you would like to raise your hand when in the meeting as a call-in user you may dial \*5.

- 6. Assistant Commissioners Report (See Report Topics Below)
- 5. Old Business
  - NA
- 6. New Business
  - Request of Carl Gomes to speak to the Commission regarding 149 West Boylston Drive
  - Request of Mr. David Webb to speak to the Commission regarding the following:
    - Communication
    - Use of City Vehicles
  - Request of Andy Serrato to speak to the Commission regarding issues at Newton Hill
- 7. Date of Next Meeting:
  - December 21, 2023
  - January 11, 2024
  - February 1, 2024 (Sports Permit Meeting)
  - February 29, 2024 (Event Permit Meeting)
  - April 4, 2024
  - April 25, 2024
  - May 23, 2024
  - June 13, 2024
- 8. Meeting Adjourned (Roll Call)

Department of Public Works & Parks
Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division
50 Skyline Drive, Worcester, MA 01605
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### PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Thursday September 28, 2023 – 6:30 P.M.

Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Administrative Office

Meeting Room A

50 Officer Manny Familia Way Worcester, MA 01605

Or

### If you choose to use the Microsoft Teams platform:

- 1) Go to www.teams.com
- 2) Enter Meeting ID# 272 607 903 170
  - 3) Enter password: i5nSc5

### If you choose to attend via phone:

- 1) Call 1-469-998-7682
- 2) Enter Meeting ID#: 819 135 610#

### **Commissioners Present:**

Nick Chacharone Kevin Githiari Eric Stratton Natalie Turner Erin Zamarro

### **Administration Present:**

Robert C. Antonelli, Jr., Assistant Commissioner Scott Morin, Maintenance Director (Virtual) John Grant, General Foreman (Virtual) Milagros Pacheco, Staff Assistant III

- 1. Meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM.
- Attendance (Roll Call) Five (5) Commission Members were present at the September 28, 2023, meeting.
- 3. Acceptance of the minutes for June 15, 2023. Commissioner Chacharone made a motion to approve the minutes. Second by Commissioner Turner. All were in favor. Motion was approved 5 0.
- 4. To request a reasonable accommodation or interpretation or submit written comments or questions in advance of the meeting, please contact the Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division by email at

<u>Parks@worcesterma.gov</u>. Please note that interpretation requests must be received no later than 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Para solicitar una interpretacion razonable, o enviar comentarios o preguntas por escrito por favor comuniquese con la oficina de la Division de Parques, Recreo & Cementerio por correo electronico a <u>Parks@worcesterma.gov</u>. Por favor note que las solicitudes de interpretacion deberan ser enviadas 48 horas antes de la reunion.

- 5. Public Participation Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021 and in order to ensure active, public engagement, the City of Worcester currently allows for both in person and remote participation at the Parks & Recreation Commission meetings. To partake in the "Public Participation" section of this meeting, you may join us directly within the 50 Skyline Drive Meeting Room A, follow the information above to join via the WebEx application or dial the direct line as indicated. If you would like to raise your hand when in the meeting as a call-in user, you may dial \*3.
- 6. Assistant Commissioners Report (See Report Topics Below)
- 7. Old Business -
  - Community Preservation Act Memo to the City Council 1-24-23 (Update and select a member to the new Commission)
    - Commissioner Chacharone made a motion for Commissioner Eric Stratton to become the liaison. Second by Commissioner Turner.
       All were in favor. Motion was approved 5 – 0.

### 8. New Business

- Appointment of a new Chairperson & Vice Chairperson
  - Commissioner Chacharone made a motion to name Commissioner Erin Zamarro as Chairperson and Commissioner Natalie Turner as the Vice Chairperson. All were in favor. Motion was approved 5 – 0.
- Request of the Department of Health and Human Services to install an Outdoor Fitness Equipment at University Park and officially make a change to the University Park Master Plan
- Request of Councilor Candy Mero-Carlson for the naming of the playground at Holmes
   Field in honor of Gordon Hargrove.
- Request of Sheri Dumas for the naming of the softball field at Vernon Hill Park in honor of Bob Rousseau.
- Request of Joe O'Brien for the naming of the playground at Castle Park in honor of Barbara Haller.
  - Assistant Commissioner explained that he was looking for an approval to advertise for the three above naming requests.
  - Commissioner Turner made a motion to approve the advertisement of the naming requests from Councilor Candy Mero-Carlson, Sheri Dumas, and Joe O'Brien. Second by Commissioner Stratton. All were in favor. Motion was approved 5 – 0.
- Notification by the family of Sara Robertson to decline the naming of the softball field at Indian Hill Park
  - Commissioner Stratton made a motion to rescind the naming of the softball field at Indian Hill Park as per Sara Robertson's family

request. Second by Commissioner Chacharone. All were in favor. Motion was approved 5-0.

- Request of Ms. Nancy Ortiz to speak to the Commission Mr. & Ms. Ortiz came in front
  of the Commission to request repairs and upgrades to the handball courts in Worcester,
  at So. Worcester, Green Hill Park and Crompton Park, they explained that the courts have
  cracks on the walls and floors, lack of a fence at Green Hill.
  - Commissioner Turner asked if Harry Sherry/So. Worcester was part of the Capital Improvements.
  - O Assistant Commissioner Antonelli explained that Harry Sherry/So. Worcester was a program that included a new handball court and a basketball court, but it came in extremely over budget and the city did not have the funding necessary to cover the cost.
  - The Commission had further discussions on funding and the feasible options, goals, and future requests for fiscal 25.
  - Commissioner Turner also asked about a letter that the Parks & Recreation Commission had sent to the Managers Office in reference to the handball courts at Green Hill Park.
  - O Assistant Commissioner Antonelli responded that the letter was received by the Manager's Office, and it was acknowledged, but nothing else. He also pointed out that there was a change in leadership quickly after the letter being sent.
  - Commissioner Turner asked to follow up with City Manager Batista.
  - Assistant Commissioner Antonelli stated that the Parks & Recreation Commission could send an updated letter if they chose to.
  - Commissioner Turner made a motion to send a follow up letter to the current City Manager regarding the Green Hill Park fencing. Second by Commissioner Chacharone. All were in favor. Motion was approved 5 – 0.
- Request of Carl Gomes to speak to the Commission.
  - Mr. Gomes from the Indian Hill Neighborhood Association spoke regarding the land on 149 West Boylston Drive and the need to have it cut before it overgrows. He also wanted to know when will the Master Plan for that land be implemented and when will it go out to the public.
  - o Assistant Commissioner Antonelli stated that the city is working with Beals & Thomas Consultants/Designer of the revised Master Plan in collaboration with UMass Amherst School, who advised that mowing of that area was not recommended until the Fall season. Their recommendation was because of the seeds that had been planted there, they wanted it to be done in the Fall. He added that there is no scheduled day yet but that it would be taken care of within a month and a half or two months or so. He added that with regard to the Master Plan, the Parks & Recreation Commission had already approved the Master Plan and he wasn't positive of where along the process it was, but he thought it might be at City Council sub-committee.

### 9. Date of Next Meeting:

- November 30, 2023 (New Date)
- December 21, 2023 (New Date)
- January 11, 2024
- February 1, 2024 (Sports Permit Meeting)
- February 29, 2024 (Event Permit Meeting)
- April 4, 2024 (New Date)
- April 25, 2024
- May 23, 2024
- June 13, 2024
- 10. Meeting Adjourned (Roll Call)

### **ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:**

### 1. General:

- Request of the Department of Health and Human Services to install an Outdoor Fitness
   Equipment at University Park
  - o Dr. Matilde Castiel, Commissioner of Health & Human Services, and Mr. Tim Garvin from United Way both spoke on behalf of this request for the Outdoor Fitness Equipment to be installed at University Park, they gave a description and handed out material with information on the equipment. There were a few questions from the Commission such as: location, set up, funding, painting, maintenance, functionality, canopy, accessibility. All questions were answered in a satisfactory manner. Administration was comfortable with the design, layout, and the expectation of the equipment.
  - o Commissioner Chacharone made a motion to approve. Second by Commissioner Stratton. All were in favor. Motion was approved 5 − 0.
- Request to use University Park by Clark University for the installation of three (3) sculptures
- Request to use University Park by Clark University for a reception with music and family activities
  - O Gloria Hall spoke on behalf of Clark University's request to install 3 sculptures, at University Park that would stay up through June 15, 2024. She added that there is a reception with music and family activities at University Park on October 14, 2023 1:00 PM 4:00 PM. There were a few questions, about location and installation of the sculptures and the event. Assistant Commissioner Antonelli made a recommendation to move one of the sculptures to a different location, as it would intervene with the Arbor Day Festivities in April of 2024, a different location was agreed upon. All questions were answered in a satisfactory manner. Administration recommended approval of both items.
  - o Commissioner Chacharone made a motion to approve installation and reception to include the stage. Second by Commissioner Stratton. All were in favor. Motion was approved 5-0.
- Request to use Elm Park by the No Loose Braids/Tiny Seeds for the installation of partial tribal homestead.
  - Jim Newman spoke on behalf of Andre "StrongBearHeart" Gaines, who runs the organization No Loose Braids/Tiny Seeds. Andre is a Nipmuc tribal cultural steward

and does cultural events around Nipmuc territory and other areas, he is requesting to install a partial tribal homestead at Elm Park, he explained that the homestead would not be enclosed they would only build the sub structure. He indicated the idea is to build the structure and follow up with an event the next day, the goal to attract tribal members and the public. The homestead would stay up for 4 months, but the event would only be for a half a day, the day after the installation. The installation would also include a drying rack for skins, a tanning rack and a fish weir weaving rack, and what called a Mishoon which is a small canoe, which is used for cooking. The canoe is raised off the ground and that's where the cooking is done. Their request is to give a demonstration/information of how it's done, there won't be any selling of food or serving food to the public. The Parks & Recreation Commission had some questions as well as people attending the meeting. Assistant Commissioner Antonelli stated that it would be the organizations responsibility to secure the structures and they would also be responsible for any damages to the property. There were questions and discussions all were answered in a satisfactory manner.

- Commissioner Stratton made a motion to approve subject to obtaining all other necessary permits. Second by Commissioner Chacharone. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0. Commissioner Turner abstained as she is a tribe member.
- Grant Applications
  - Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Grant
    - o Tacoma St Playground Awarded
  - Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant
    - o University Park Awarded
  - Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant
    - o Great Brook Valley Submitted
  - PARC & LAND Grant Program
    - Sever Street Awarded
  - o USDA Forest Service Grant -
    - IRA -- Not Awarded -- Update will be given after Urban Forestry Tree
       Commission meeting.
- Economic Development Initiatives
  - o NA
- Cultural Events
  - o NA
- Park Vandalism & Graffiti NA
- Donations –
- NA
- Capital Improvement Programs
  - o Apricot Street Playground NA
  - Ball Property NA
  - o Banis Street Playground NA
  - o Beaver Brook Park NA
  - o Bell Pond NA
  - o Bennett Field NA
  - o Betty Price Playground NA
  - o Blackstone Gateway Park NA
  - o Blithwood Park NA
  - Boynton Park NA
  - Burncoat Park NA

- Burncoat Playground NA
- Cascades Park NA
- Castle Park NA
- Coal Mine Brook Ms. Feanna Jattan-Singh spoke in admiration of the work done at Coal Mine Brook but was disappointed in the lack of restrooms at the new facility.
- o Common NA
- Coes Park (Knife) NA
  - Stearns Tavern
  - Playground
- Coes Pond NA
- Columbus Park
  - NA
- Cookson Park NA
- Cristoforo Columbo (East Park)
  - NA
- Crompton Park NA
- Dodge Park NA
- o Elm Park NA
  - Newton Hill NA
- Fairmont Park NA
- o Farber Field NA
- o Grant Square Great neighborhood event, after opening renovations
- Great Brook Valley Playground NA
- Green Hill Park Renovation NA
  - Green Hill Farm
  - Community Gardens
  - wwi
- o Greenwood Park NA
- Hadwen Park NA
- Harrington Field Update
- Harry Sherry Field (S. Worcester) NA
- o Holland Rink NA
- o Holmes Field NA
- Indian Hill Park NA
- Indian Lake Beach NA
- Institute Park NA
  - Walkway Design
  - Salisbury Pond Update
- o Kendrick Field NA
- Knights of Columbus NA
- o Korean War Memorial NA
- Lake Park NA
- Lake View Playground NA
- Logan Field NA
- o Morgan Landing NA
- Mulcahy Field NA
- Oakland Heights Playground NA
- Providence Street Playground NA
- o Ramshorn Island NA
- Rockwood Field NA

- Salisbury Park (Bancroft Tower) NA
- Shale Street Playground NA
- o Shore Park NA
- Spillane Field NA
- o South Worcester Park NA
- Tacoma Street Playground Informational item included in package
- o TY Cobb NA
- University Park NA
- o Vernon Hill NA
- Wetherall Estates (Duffy Field) NA
- o 149 West Boylston Drive NA
- Winslow & Pleasant NA
- o Aquatic Master Plan NA
- o Open Space and Recreation Plan NA
- o North Lake Ave Linear Park NA
- Community Development Block Grant NA
- Art-in-the-Park Request to keep Artwork in Elm Park NA
- Dog Park, Licensing & Control of Dogs NA
- Rectangular Field Development NA
- Park Monument Review NA
- Misc. items:
  - Keep Worcester Clean
    - o NA
  - o City Council Orders -
    - NA
  - o City Council Petitions -
    - NA
  - o Forestry Operations -
    - Tree City USA NA
    - ALB (Asian Longhorned Beetle)
    - EAB (Emerald Ash Borer)
    - Arbor Day April 26, 2024
  - Budget Operational & Capital NA
    - Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division NA
    - Capital Improvement Program NA
    - City Five Point Financial Plan NA
    - City Auditor Communications NA
  - o Summer Youth Employment Program Ok year not enough aquatic staff this year
  - o Aquatics NA
    - Christian's Law NA
  - o Recreation Worcester NA
  - o Holiday Tree NA
  - Worcester Common Ice-Skating Rink NA
  - Waterfowl in Park NA
  - Out-to-Lunch NA
  - o Trash NA
  - o ESCo NA
  - Park Permits –
- NA
- o Access/ADA NA

- o Mobile Concession/ Food Truck NA
- o ATV Recreational Vehicle NA
- Veterans Memorials NA
- o Misc. Information -
  - NA
- Golf Course:
  - o Fees & Policies NA
  - o Golf Course Donations NA
- Date of Next meeting October 26, 2023
- Commissioner Chacharone made a motion to adjourn. Second by Commissioner Turner. All were in favor. Motion approved 5 0. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM.

A copy of this full meeting will be available to view and listen to at: <a href="https://www.worcesterma.gov/city-clerk/public-meetings/agendas-minutes">www.worcesterma.gov/city-clerk/public-meetings/agendas-minutes</a>

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### PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Thursday October 26, 2023 - 6:30 P.M.

Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Administrative Office

Meeting Room A

50 Officer Manny Familia Way Worcester, MA 01605

Or

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  - 3) Enter password: 7cqmSU

### If you choose to attend via phone:

- 1) Call 1-469-998-7682
- 2) Enter Meeting ID#: 699 385 767#

### **Commissioners Present:**

Nick Chacharone
Brian Dardy
Kevin Githiari
Eric Goldstein
Natalie Turner (Virtual)
Erin Zamarro

### **Administration Present:**

Robert C. Antonelli, Jr., Assistant Commissioner Scott Morin, Maintenance Director (Virtual) John Grant, General Foreman (Virtual) Milagros Pacheco, Staff Assistant III

- 1. Meeting was called to order at 6:34 PM.
- 2. Attendance (Roll Call) Total of 6 Members, five (5) Commission Members present in person, One Commission (1) member present virtually at the October 26, 2023, meeting.
- 3. Acceptance of the minutes for September 28, 2023. (Tabled)
- 4. To request a reasonable accommodation or interpretation or submit written comments or questions in advance of the meeting, please contact the Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division by email at

<u>Parks@worcesterma.gov</u>. Please note that interpretation requests must be received no later than 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Para solicitar una interpretacion razonable, o enviar comentarios o preguntas por escrito por favor comuniquese con la oficina de la Division de Parques, Recreo & Cementerio por correo electronico a <u>Parks@worcesterma.gov</u>. Por favor note que las solicitudes de interpretacion deberan ser enviadas 48 horas antes de la reunion.

- 5. Public Participation Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021 and in order to ensure active, public engagement, the City of Worcester currently allows for both in person and remote participation at the Parks & Recreation Commission meetings. To partake in the "Public Participation" section of this meeting, you may join us directly within the 50 Skyline Drive Meeting Room A, follow the information above to join via the WebEx application or dial the direct line as indicated. If you would like to raise your hand when in the meeting as a call-in user, you may dial \*3.
- 6. Assistant Commissioners Report (See Report Topics Below)

### 7. Old Business

- Request of Joe O'Brien for the naming of the playground at Castle Park in honor of Barbara Haller.
- Request of Sheri Dumas for the naming of the softball field at Vernon Hill Park in honor of Bob Rousseau.
- Request of Councilor Candy Mero-Carlson for the naming of the playground at Holmes Field in honor of Gordon Hargrove.

### 8. New Business

- Request of Carl Gomes to speak to the Commission on 149 West Boylston Drive with the following questions:
  - Can you please supply all the recommendations you stated at the September parks meeting you received from Beal's & Thomas detailing why the Parks department did not perform a cutting in 2021 & 2022 as recommended in the July 31, 2021, recommendations of Beal's & Thomas to begin in 2021.
  - Assistant Commissioner Antonelli explained that in 2021 the 149 West Boylston Drive was still under contractual obligations. The contractor still owned the property, the City had not accepted the property, no payout, retainage, or final payment was made until January 4, 2022. Therefore, it was the contractor's responsibility to maintain the property. The letter from Beal's & Thomas talks a little about 2022 and has a background on why it wasn't mowed in 2022.
  - Can you also provide the 2022 (drought) maintenance schedule for all City of Worcester Parks?
  - Assistant Commissioner Antonelli explained that there is no drought maintenance schedule, there are no records of that, other parks were maintained in 2022 but schedule changes based on environmental impacts.
  - Can you provide prior to the October Parks meeting when the 2023 cutting will be scheduled?
  - Assistant Commissioner Antonelli explained that due to other jobs already on the pipeline a date was not yet scheduled. He added that the intention is to get it done in November hopefully closer to the beginning of November than the end, but he still did not have a scheduled date.

- Additionally, can you confirm in writing that the maintenance schedule for 149 West Boylston Drive as recommended by Beal's & Thomas will occur each fall until the master plan for 149 West Boylston Drive is approved and funded?
- Assistant Commissioner Antonelli explained that the Parks & Recreation intentions are to meet that deadline every fall based on environmental impacts, the intentions are to continue mowing it sometime late October, early November.
- Mr. David Webb requested clarification on how environment was being defined.
- Assistant Commissioner Antonelli explained that it was based on the growth of the material happening at the site, and he followed by referring to the recommendation from Beal's & Thomas, which was included in the Parks Commission package.
- o Mr. Webb had other questions as well as Mr. Gomes which were addressed by the Parks & Recreation Commission and Assistant Commissioner Antonelli. There were further discussions between the Parks Commission and Assistant Commissioner Antonelli (A copy of this full meeting is available at <a href="https://www.worcesterma.gov/city-clerk/public-meetings/agenda-minutes">www.worcesterma.gov/city-clerk/public-meetings/agenda-minutes</a>).
- Request of David Webb to speak to the Commission on 149 West Boylston Drive with the following questions:
  - o What determination resulted in not following this recommendation in 2021 & 2022?
  - o This question had been already addressed in previous conversations with Mr. Gomes.
  - o Do you have a set date of when you intend to follow the recommendation in 2023?
  - A date had not been set yet.
  - o Do you intend to follow the recommendation of to cut annually in the future?
  - o Commissioner Turner requested Mr. Webb ask the question that was not already discussed, as most of these questions were discussed earlier during the meeting.
  - o Which city commission, department, or employee is responsible for ensuring this committee upholds commitments made to constituents and/or that it follows recommendations made to it by its consultants?
  - o Did the assistant commissioner have this recommendation available to them at the last meeting?
  - o Assistant Commissioner Antonelli answered no to this question.
- Request of Feanna Jattan-Singh to speak to the Commission on regarding on invasive species of plants with the following question:
  - o What the parks department is doing about managing the invasive species of plants taking over our city parks?
  - O Assistant Commissioner Antonelli answered that the Parks & Recreation Division doesn't have the funding and staffing to irradicate these type of invasive species therefore the Parks & Recreation Division only addresses areas along fence lines, or along the roadways that cause safety issues.
  - o Who is responsible for handling the Japanese Knotweed and Tree of Heaven?
  - Assistant Commissioner Antonelli responded that there is no single organization that would ultimately be responsible to irradicate invasive species, he said that it would be the organization or department that is responsible for the maintenance and management of said property. If it's a park it would be the parks division, private properties would be the property owner, conservation land would be the Conservation Commission, tax levy properties would be Treasurers, etc. and now
  - o What is their plan of action? Is this written anywhere that the public can access?
  - Assistant Commissioner Antonelli responded they are working with Conservation Commission for invasive plant issues that are in and around some of the park ponds, particularly Elm Park ponds. He said they are working in building a model of what

- they can do at Elm and then trying to take that model to use at other parks properties. He stated that there aren't many programs out there to deal with the invasive species.
- Mr. Johnson spoke about the State Laws that relate to invasive plants in Massachusetts.
- Request of Geoff Killebrew to speak to the Commission on past & present rules and regulation regarding vending and busking in city parks.
- Mr. Killebrew gave a brief description of his vending at Elm Park, he read through some positive comments online, then he had questions about parking inside the park, rules.
- Assistant Commissioner Antonelli answered all his questions. There were various
  questions and discussions regarding driving a vehicle inside of the park, unless a City of
  Worcester vehicle, it was also explained that vehicles are not allowed in the park unless
  there are parks the individual/organization has permission from the Parks & Recreation
  Division and has paid for staff to be on site.
- Commissioner Turner explained the process to Mr. Killebrew and the rule/regulation.
- Mr. Killebrew asked what the process was to change the rule/regulation.
- A person in attendance virtually who is a neighbor of Elm Park asked if the vendor had a license to sell food, served from a toaster oven.
- Assistant Commissioner Antonelli responded that Mr. Killebrew did have a permit from Inspectional Services for the food.
- The neighbor also asked about the Sound Ordinance because of the loud music being played by the vendor.
- Assistant Commissioner Antonelli stated that the sound complaint has come into the Parks Office, and it has been relayed to the vendor. He suggested if it happens again to call Parks Security or the nonemergency line at the Police Department.
- Commissioner Goldstein recommended to call Park Security and to inform the Parks
  Division as all permits are reviewed on a yearly basis.
- Mr. Killebrew confirmed that the food he sells is mostly pre-packaged food and that he
  doesn't use a toaster oven he uses a hot dog steamer. He added that he doesn't sell food
  from coolers either.
- Mr. Killebrew stated he wanted to come back to another meeting to discuss the vendor permit process and transparency.
- Assistant Commissioner Antonelli spoke to point out that the process is transparent. That
  it's the same bid process used for all vendors, and that all rules & regulations are in writing
  within the bid documents that were signed by Mr. Killebrew and all park vendors who
  won a bid.
- Mr. Killebrew spoke about past vendors, operating hours.
- Commissioner Turner explained that some items are not the prevue of the Parks Commission and that he signed a contract which he needed to abide by.
- Chairperson Commissioner Zamarro pointed out that the meeting was getting to the 3hour mark, and she suggested Mr. Killebrew submit a bulleted list of questions that can be addressed at a future meeting.

### 9. Date of Next Meeting:

- November 30, 2023 (New Date)
- December 21, 2023 (New Date)
- January 11, 2024
- February 1, 2024 (Sports Permit Meeting)
- February 29, 2024 (Event Permit Meeting)

- April 4, 2024 (New Date)
- April 25, 2024
- May 23, 2024
- June 13, 2024

10. Meeting Adjourned (Roll Call)

### ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

### General:

- Request of Joe O'Brien for the naming of the playground at Castle Park in honor of Barbara Haller.
  - Casey Starr spoke passionately and positively in support of this request; she took the opportunity to give some history on all the work and dedication Barbara Haller devoted to Castle Park and the community.
  - Steve Teasdale also spoke positively on behalf of the request to name the park after Barbara Haller he said he couldn't think of a better tribute.
  - o Frank Zytomerski (Not sure of last name spelling, name was not on the sign in sheet). Mr. Zytomerski gave some history of when Barbara Haller moved into the neighborhood in 1993, and the condition of the park back then, he passed out photos of Barbara Haller in different occasions when the park was being cleared of brush and trash, there was tree plantings, and par events for the community.
  - Scott Hayman spoke and gave some additional history of the park and a property at the foot of the park, and he also spoke great of Barbara Haller, and he was also in support of the naming.
  - o Joe O'Brien thanked the Parks Commissioner as well as the committee for their service, he also commended Konnie Lukes who was present and had worked along Barbara Haller in the past. He went on to say that there are people in the community that go above and beyond, and they are beacons of the community and public services, and he said it was important to work with the Parks Commission to make sure there's appropriate recognition of Barbara Hallers service and legacy of the park.
  - Commissioner made a motion to approve the request to name Castle Park in honor of Barbara Haller. Second by Commissioner Goldstein. All were in favor. Motion was approved 6 – 0.
- Request of Sheri Dumas for the naming of the softball field at Vernon Hill Park in honor of Bob Rousseau.
  - Madesen Smith spoke lovingly on behalf of her grandfather Bob Rousseau, she spoke of his hard work and dedication to this field of the countless hours Bob Rousseau spends at the softball field, mowing, lining the field, picking up trash, operating the

- scoreboard, DJ'ing, coaching, and managing the Eastern Regional Tournament. Ms. Madesen said she grew up at Vernon Hill because of her grandfather and she can't wait to play on that field. She thanked the Commission for their consideration to name the field after her grandfather.
- Meg Mulhern, as past chair of the Parks & Recreation Commission came in front of the commission in support of Naming the Softball Field at Vernon Hill after Bob Rousseau, her longtime friend and mentor, she called him. She spoke of how long and how well she got to know Mr. Bob Rousseau calling him kind, understanding, very patient, a person that worked through hiccups with a smile on his face. She spoke about the love and dedication he has for the game and love to teach young men and women on and off the field, his volunteer services and love for the community, and his commitment to little league. She added he is the reason why so many in the room consider him a mentor. She added that Vernon Hill Softball Field is one of the best softball fields in the city and it's due to the countless hours spent seeding, dragging, watering, weeding, lining the field. He never declined a request to help. Ms. Mulhern said she spoke on behalf of a man who has spent 65 years in services to Vernon Hill Softball. She asked for a unanimous vote to name the field after Bob Rousseau.
- Commissioner Goldstein made a motion at accept the naming of the Vernon Hill Softball Field after Bob Rousseau. Second by Commissioner Chacharone. All were in favor. Motion was approved 6 – 0.
- Request of Councilor Candy Mero-Carlson for the naming of the playground at Holmes Field in honor of Gordon Hargrove.
  - Erica Cawley from the City Council Office read a letter of support from Candy Merrill Carlson for the naming of the Holmes field playground after Gordon Hargrove. The letter read of how Gordon Hargrove selfless contributions have profoundly impacted countless lives in Worcester, and about his commitment to foster a positive and nurturing environment for the community youth, and how he has been nothing but inspirational, to families facing challenges from addressing issues of homelessness to of drug, alcohol addiction. "His tireless efforts transformed Worcester into a better place." The letter also mentions how Gordon Hargroves approach to community services is unparalleled and is genuine concern for others. The letter goes on to list so many accolades throughout his career. Councilor Carlson wrote "I sincerely hope you consider this proposal with the depth of significance merits by naming the playground at Holmes after Gordon Hargrove. We not only commemorate his remarkable journey, but also sure that his legacy continues to inspire generations to come. She added that she hopes to see Gordon Hargroves name forever associated with the Holmes Field Playground."

- o Mr. John "Jack" Perez also spoke very fondly of Gordon Hargrove, he reminisced of how Gordon was personable, how he kept the kids involved in sports, basketball, kickball, dodgeball, football. For Thanksgiving he would hand out Turkeys, the kids would help him deliver around the neighborhood, for Christmas he would organize parties for the neighborhood. He also worked with a Sargent from Holy Cross who got interns to work at the Friendly house and they inspired, encouraged, and taught them things, it was like a big brother/sister. He ended by saying that he wanted to speak on Gordon Hargroves behalf and say, "Thank You Gordon".
- o Commissioner Turner said she would happily support the naming of the playground after Gordon, she said as a kid and then as an adult she was touched by friendly house. She added that this would be a great tribute to Gordon Hargrove.
- o Commissioner Turner made a motion to accept the naming of the Holmes Field Playground after Gordon Hargrove. Second by Commissioner Chacharone. All were in favor. Motion was approved 6-0.
- Request of World of Foods for an event at Elm Park
  - Harolyn Castillo spoke on behalf of the event gave a brief description of the event. She spoke about the permit process the lighting of the park and requested the fees to be waived.
  - o Commissioner Chacharone asked if Administration had any concerns as this was a first-time event.
  - Assistant Commission Antonelli, said there were no issues, but there wouldn't be any fee waivers.
  - A neighbor of Elm Park spoke to voice his concern about parking for events. He said he loves the events, but the parking become an issue and he suggested a police officer in addition to a parking authority so the neighbors can safely get in and out as they need to.
  - Chairperson Commissioner Zamarro asked if the Parks Department requires a parking plan.
  - Assistant Commissioner Antonelli said he would have security patrol the area on the day of the event.
  - The neighbor went on to complaint about only having one security guard.
  - Assistant Commissioner Antonelli explained that unfortunately out of the 3 positions open there was only one filled because other Security staff had resigned for different personal reasons, but that the job is actively posted, and the Parks & Recreation Division is looking to hire 2 more security guards.
  - The neighbor also complained about a vendor who drives a U-Haul truck on to the park to unload some coolers, generator etc., he said that was dangerous.
  - Assistant Commissioner Antonelli indicated that his comments were going to be taken under advisement and the parks division would talk to the vendor regarding those issues.

- Ms. Castillo explained that she was looking for approval to park at Doherty High School to avoid any parking issues.
- Commissioner Turner express the necessity to have a conversation about parking. She stated she also lives close to a park and recognized the concerns about parking.
- Commissioner Goldstein made a motion to approve the event.
   Second by Commissioner Turner. All were in favor. Motion was approved 6 0.
- Request of the City of Worcester for an event on The Worcester Common for the Annual Festival of Lights and to serve alcohol.
  - Victoria gave a brief description of the Festival of Lights she explained it going to be the same as every year as far as set up, there would be beer tents managed by different vendors, there will be Police Detail and there will be barricades around the beer garden to keep it contained in the tent and everyone's checking for 21+, and all bartenders are certified.
  - Commissioner Dardy asked for how long the event has been going on and for how long they have been having alcohol. He also asked if there was only beer and not hard alcohol.
  - Assistant Commissioner answered that the event has been happening 30+ years, but only the last 5 or so have they served alcohol.
  - Victoria confirmed that only beer would be served, not hard alcohol.
  - Commissioner Dardy made a motion to approve the beer tents at the Festival of Lights. Second by Commissioner Turner. All were in favor. Motion was approved 6 – 0.
- Request of the City of Worcester Youth Opportunity Office for an event on The Worcester Common for the Cultural Latino/a/e tradition of remembrance and to serve alcohol.
  - Valerie Zolez spoke about the Remembrance cultural event/Dia de los muertos at the Common. She explained she is not with Department of Youth Opportunities she is one of the co-finders of Casita Cultura Latina but partnering with Youth services. She gave a description of the event she said a beautiful offering, it's a day to honor those that have passed. People can bring pictures of those they have lost. It's a family friendly atmosphere, there will be vendors with arts and crafts, musicians/mariachi, will have partner programing, and will be partnering with Redemption Rock Brewery, who brewed a special beer for this event which will be a fundraiser for Casita Cultura Latina.
  - Commissioner Dardy asked how many years the event has happened and for how many years they have served alcohol and have there ever been any issues.
  - Ms. Zolez answered that was the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the event 2<sup>nd</sup> year serving the alcohol, and there's never been any issues and they have Police Detail.
  - Commissioner Turner had a question about the Police sign off.
  - Ms. Zolez said that was in process.
  - Commissioner Githiari asked if there would be performers at the event.

- Assistant Commissioner Antonelli explained that the Festival of Lights would have performers but not this event.
- o Commissioner Chacharone made a motion to approve the event to serve alcohol. Second by Commissioner Dardy. All were in favor. Motion was approved 6 0.
- Parks & Recreation Commission New Commissioner
  - Assistant Commissioner Antonelli informed of the new Commission member Kevin Githiari
- Review of the Community Preservation Committee
  - Assistant Commissioner explained that Commissioner Stratton has been added to the list and will be there for 1 year.
- Review of the City Council Item on Dog Parks City Council Item submitted to Council
- Review of the City Council Item on Tacoma Street Playground City Council item submitted to Council
- Review of the City Council Item on Harrington Way Field City Council item submitted to Council
- Grant Applications
  - Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Grant Tacoma St Playground - Awarded
  - Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant University Park - Awarded
  - Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant –
     Great Brook Valley Submitted
  - PARC & LAND Grant Program –
     Sever Street Awarded
  - o USDA Forest Service Grant IRA Not Awarded
- Economic Development Initiatives
  - o NA
- Cultural Events
  - o NA
- Park Vandalism & Graffiti NA
- Donations
  - o NA
- Capital Improvement Programs
  - o Apricot Street Playground NA
  - o Ball Property NA
  - o Banis Street Playground NA
  - Beaver Brook Park NA
  - o Bell Pond NA
  - o Bennett Field NA
  - Betty Price Playground NA
  - o Blackstone Gateway Park NA
  - Blithwood Park NA
  - o Boynton Park NA
  - o Burncoat Park NA
  - o Burncoat Playground NA
  - Cascades Park NA
  - o Castle Park NA
  - o Coal Mine Brook NA

- Common NA
- Coes Park (Knife) NA
  - Stearns Tavern
    - Playground
- Coes Pond NA
- Columbus Park
  - NA.
- o Cookson Park NA
- Cristoforo Columbo (East Park)
  - · NA
- Crompton Park NA
- Dodge Park NA
- o Elm Park NA
  - Newton Hill NA
- Fairmont Park NA
- o Farber Field NA
- o Grant Square Update
- Great Brook Valley Playground NA
- Green Hill Park Renovation NA
  - Green Hill Farm
  - Community Gardens
  - WWI
- Greenwood Park NA
- o Hadwen Park NA
- o Harrington Field NA
- Harry Sherry Field (S. Worcester) NA
- Holland Rink NA
- o Holmes Field NA
- o Indian Hill Park NA
- o Indian Lake Beach NA
- o Institute Park NA
  - Walkway Design
  - Salisbury Pond Update
- Kendrick Field NA
- Knights of Columbus NA
- o Korean War Memorial NA
- o Lake Park NA
- Lake View Playground NA
- o Logan Field NA
- o Morgan Landing NA
- o Mulcahy Field NA
- Oakland Heights Playground NA
- Providence Street Playground NA
- o Ramshorn Island NA
- o Rockwood Field NA
- o Salisbury Park (Bancroft Tower) NA
- Shale Street Playground NA
- o Shore Park NA
- Spillane Field NA
- South Worcester Park NA

- o Tacoma Street Playground NA
- o TY Cobb NA
- o University Park NA
- o Vernon Hill NA
- o Wetherall Estates (Duffy Field) NA
- o 149 West Boylston Drive NA
- Winslow & Pleasant NA
- o Aquatic Master Plan NA
- o Open Space and Recreation Plan NA
- o North Lake Ave Linear Park NA
- Community Development Block Grant NA
- Art-in-the-Park Request to keep Artwork in Elm Park NA
- Dog Park, Licensing & Control of Dogs NA
- Rectangular Field Development NA
- Park Monument Review NA
- Misc. items:
  - o Keep Worcester Clean -
    - NA
  - o City Council Orders -
    - NA
  - o City Council Petitions -
    - NA
  - Forestry Operations
    - Tree City USA NA
    - ALB (Asian Longhorned Beetle)
    - EAB (Emerald Ash Borer)
    - Arbor Day April 26, 2024
  - Budget Operational & Capital NA
    - Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division NA
    - Capital Improvement Program NA
    - City Five Point Financial Plan NA
    - City Auditor Communications NA
  - o Summer Youth Employment Program Update
  - o Aquatics NA
    - Christian's Law NA
  - Recreation Worcester NA
  - o Holiday Tree December 1, 2023 @ 4:00 PM
  - Worcester Common Ice-Skating Rink Update
  - Waterfowl in Park NA
  - Out-to-Lunch NA
  - o Trash NA
  - o ESCo NA
  - o Park Permits -
    - NA
  - o Access/ ADA NA
  - Mobile Concession/ Food Truck NA
  - o ATV Recreational Vehicle NA
  - o Veterans Memorials NA
  - o Misc. Information -
    - NA

- Golf Course:
  - o Fees & Policies NA
  - Golf Course Donations NA
- Date of Next meeting October 26, 2023
- Commissioner Chacharone made a motion to adjourn. Second by Commissioner Turner and Goldstein. All were in favor. Motion approved 6 0. Meeting adjourned at 9:31 PM.

A copy of this full meeting will be available to view and listen to at: <a href="https://www.worcesterma.gov/city-clerk/public-meetings/agendas-minutes">www.worcesterma.gov/city-clerk/public-meetings/agendas-minutes</a>



TO:

Cesar Valiente, City of Worcester Department of Public Works and Parks

FROM:

David LaPointe, RLA

DATE:

July 30, 2021

REFERENCE:

Maintenance of Meadow Area

149 West Boylston Drive Worcester, Massachusetts B+T Project No. 2407.06

The 149 West Boylston Drive property was recently cleared and grubbed of existing vegetation to remove woody plant materials and invasive plants that have become established on the property after many years where the property was allowed to become overgrown after the completion of the adjacent highway (Route 190). Upon completion of the vegetation removal, a seed mix (New England Conservation/Wildlife mix from New England Wetland Plants, Inc.) was spread across the area to stabilize the soil and provide herbaceous vegetation that could be easily maintained until such a time that a future use of the property is determined.

Recommended maintenance consists of an annual cutting at the end of the fall (late October - early November) to help the established species continue to drop seed on site as well as to induce the plant to move all stored energy into the roots and out of the vegetation so they come back stronger the following spring. A mowing is recommended in the fall of 2021, as noted.

DJL/240706MR001



TO:

Rob Antonelli, Assistant Commissioner

City of Worcester Department of Public Works and Parks

FROM:

David LaPointe, RLA

REFERENCE:

Meadow Maintenance 149 West Boylston Drive Worcester, Massachusetts B+T Project No. 2407.06

Regarding the mowing of the meadow area planted at the 149 West Boylston property after the area was cleared of existing invasive and other woody vegetation, it has been determined that mowing in the fall was not necessary in order to allow additional time for the new herbaceous plant material to become established and be allowed to drop additional seeds or allow the spread of seeds through other means (birds, wind). Upon establishment, although an annual mowing of the vegetation is recommended, it would not be detrimental to forego this annual mowing.

240706MR002





### Department of Public Works & Parks Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division

50 Officer Manny Familia Way, Worcester, MA 01605

P | 508-799-1190 F | 508-799-1293
parks@worcesterma.gov

### **ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:**

### 1. General:

- Review of design plans for Whispering Wall Renovation at Lincoln Square.
- Grant Applications
  - Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Grant Tacoma St Playground - Awarded
  - Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant –
     University Park Awarded
  - Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant —
     Great Brook Valley Submitted
  - PARC & LAND Grant Program –
     Sever Street Awarded
  - Commonwealth of Massachusetts Grant Award for Elm Park - Awarded
- Economic Development Initiatives -
  - > NA
- Cultural Events
  - o NA
- Park Vandalism & Graffiti NA
- Donations
  - Donation from Fontaine Brothers for labor & materials to build picnic tables
  - Donation from North Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters and Latino Club for labor to build picnic tables
- Capital Improvement Programs
  - Apricot Street Playground NA
  - o Ball Property NA
  - o Banis Street Playground NA
  - Beaver Brook Park NA
  - o Bell Pond NA
  - Bennett Field NA
  - Betty Price Playground NA
  - Blackstone Gateway Park NA
  - Blithwood Park NA
  - Boynton Park = NA
  - Burncoat Park NA
  - Burncoat Playground NA
  - Cascades Park NA
  - Castle Park NA
  - Coal Mine Brook NA
  - Common NA
    - Coes Park (Knife) NA
      - Stearns Tavern
      - Playground
  - Coes Pond NA
  - Columbus Park –

- · NA
- o Cookson Park NA
- Cristoforo Columbo (East Park) -
  - Update
- Crompton Park NA
- Dodge Park NA
- Elm Park NA
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  - Walkway Design
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- South Worcester Park NA
- Tacoma Street Playground Update
- TY Cobb NA
- University Park Update
- Vernon Hill NA
- Wetherall Estates (Duffy Field) NA
- 149 West Boylston Drive NA
- Winslow & Pleasant NA
- Aquatic Master Plan NA
- Open Space and Recreation Plan NA



### Department of Public Works & Parks Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division

50 Officer Manny Familia Way, Worcester, MA 01605

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- North Lake Ave Linear Park NA
- Community Development Block Grant NA
- Art-in-the-Park Request to keep Artwork in Elm Park NA
- Dog Park, Licensing & Control of Dogs NA
- Rectangular Field Development NA
- Park Monument Review NA
- Misc. items:
- o Keep Worcester Clean -
  - NA
- City Council Orders
  - NA
- City Council Petitions
  - NA
- Forestry Operations
  - Tree City USA NA
  - ALB (Asian Longhorned Beetle)
  - EAB (Emerald Ash Borer)
  - Arbor Day April 26, 2024
- Budget Operational & Capital NA
  - Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division NA
  - Capital Improvement Program NA
  - City Five Point Financial Plan NA
  - City Auditor Communications NA
- Summer Youth Employment Program Update
- Aquatics NA
  - Christian's Law NA
- o Recreation Worcester NA
- o Holiday Tree December 1, 2023 @ 4:00 PM
- Worcester Common Ice-Skating Rink Update
- Waterfowl in Park NA
- Out-to-Lunch NA
- o Trash NA
- o ESCo NA
- o Park Permits -
  - NA.
- o Access/ADA NA
- Mobile Concession/ Food Truck NA
- o ATV Recreational Vehicle NA
- Veterans Memorials NA
- Misc. Information
  - NA.
- Golf Course:
  - Fees & Policies Update
  - Golf Course Donations NA

### PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday November 30, 2023 – 6:30 P.M.

Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Administrative Office

Meeting Room A

50 Officer Manny Familia Way Worcester, MA 01605

Or

Virtual with Teams

### **ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

**GENERAL** 

# **Public Meeting Invitation**



If you choose to use the Microsoft Teams

platform, you would:

go to www.teams.com

Enter meeting ID #: 234 605 032 703

Enter password: ziPrQ1

If you choose to attend via phone:

Parks & Recreation Commission

Place:

Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division City of Worcester DPW & Parks;

50 Officer Manny Familia Way

Norcester, MA 01605

5:30 PM

Time

Meeting - Room A\*\*\*

Call 1 - 469 - 998 - 7682

Enter meeting ID#: 140 222 865#

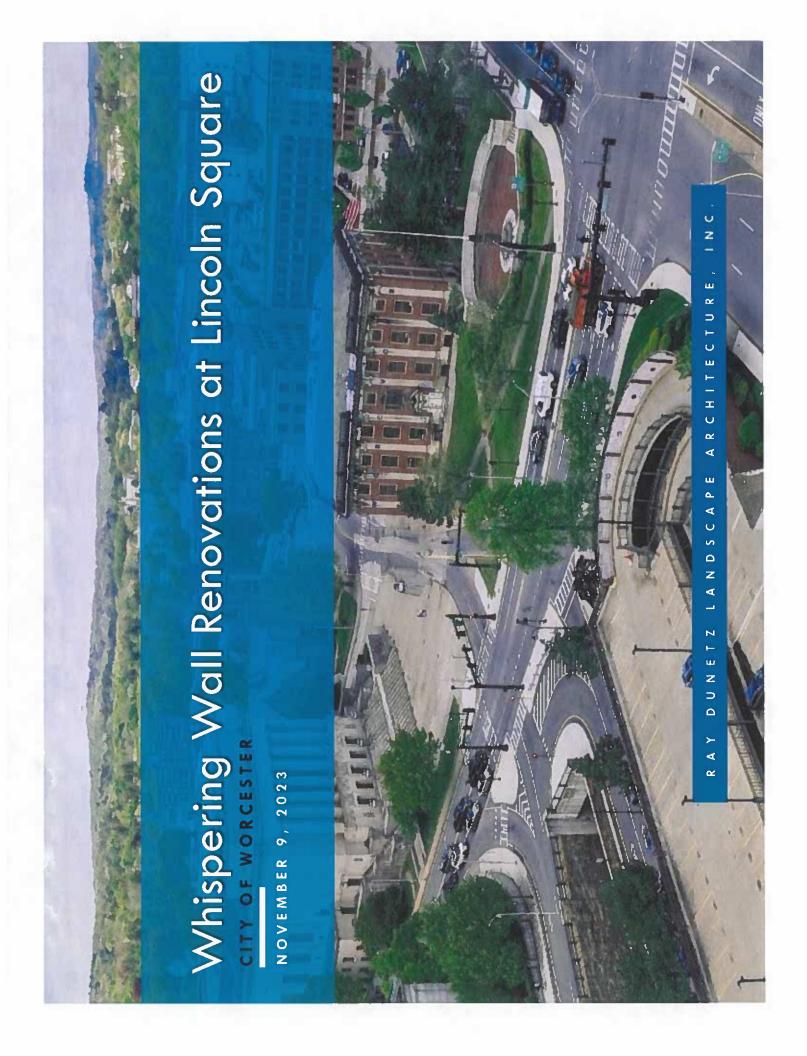
\*\*\* This is scheduled for discussion as the

FIRST Item on the meeting agenda. Thursday, NOVEMBER 30, 2023

## **WHISPERING WALL RENOVATION AT LINCOLN SQUARE**

information and subsequent public comments will be synthesized to determine the proposed The presentation of the proposed renovations to the Whispering Wall at Lincoln Square. The hearing will begin with a presentation and conclude with a public question and comment forum. All presented improvements of the facility.

The City of Worcester does not discriminate on the basis of disability. The Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division will provide auxiliary aids and services, written materials in alternative formats, and reasonable modifications in policies and procedures to persons with disabilities upon advance request. Please contact the Parks Division at parks@worcesterma.gov or phone (508) 799-1190 or the City ADA Coordinator at accessibility@worcesterma.gov. Call (508) 799-1294 in the event of severe weather, and for up-to-date meeting status.



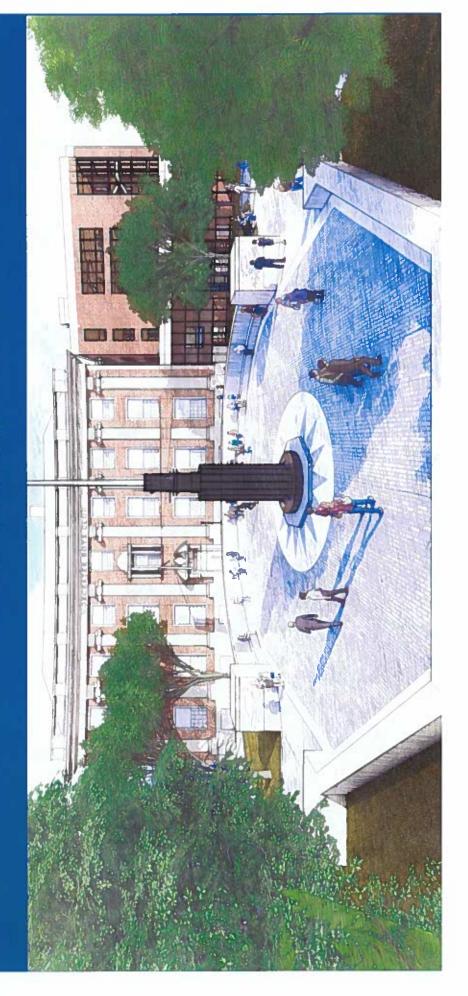
1. Timeline

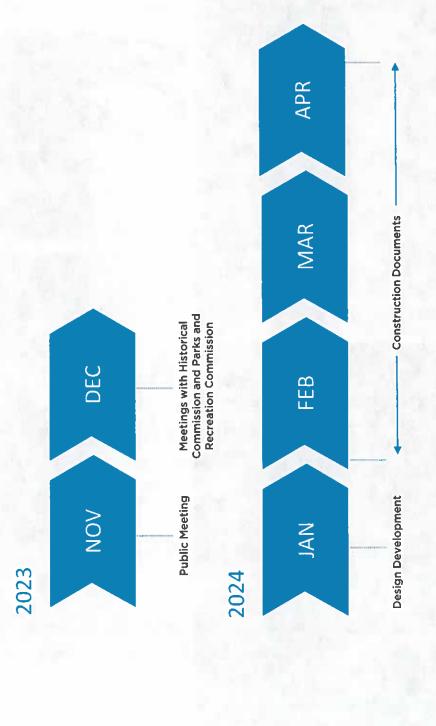
2. History

3. Existing Conditions

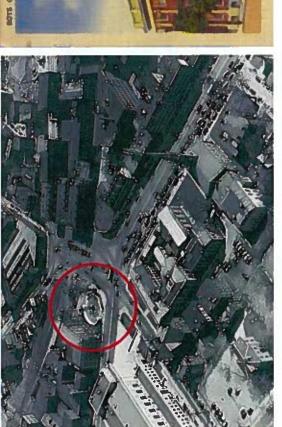
4. Concept

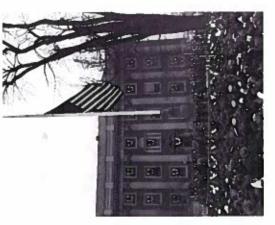
5. Discussion



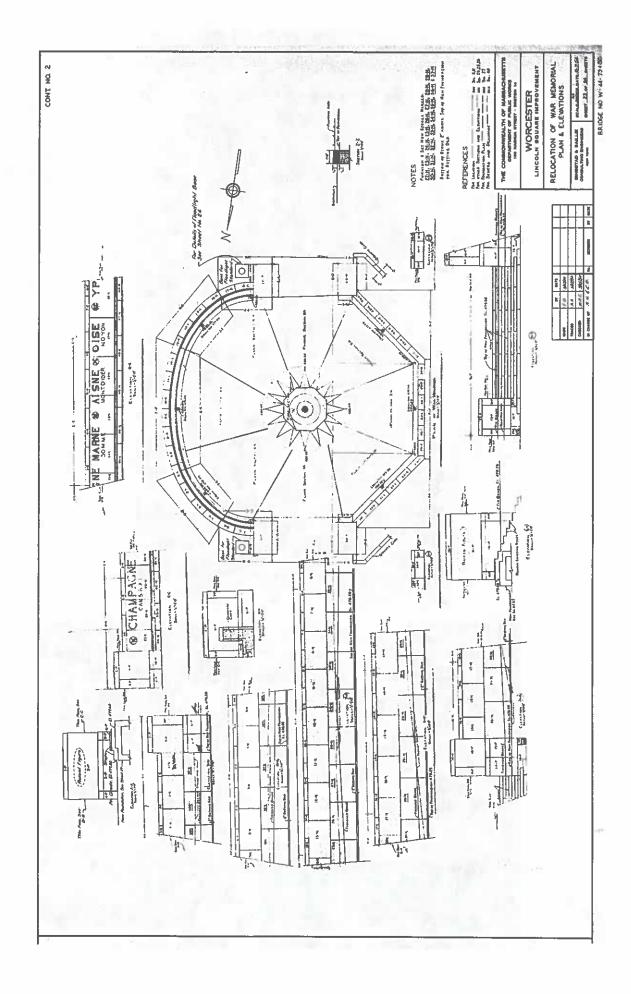




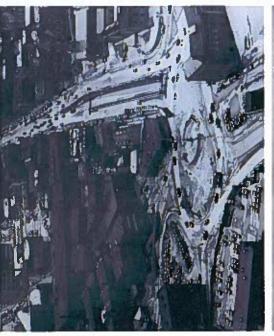


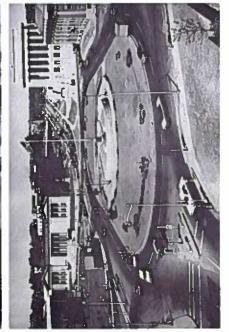




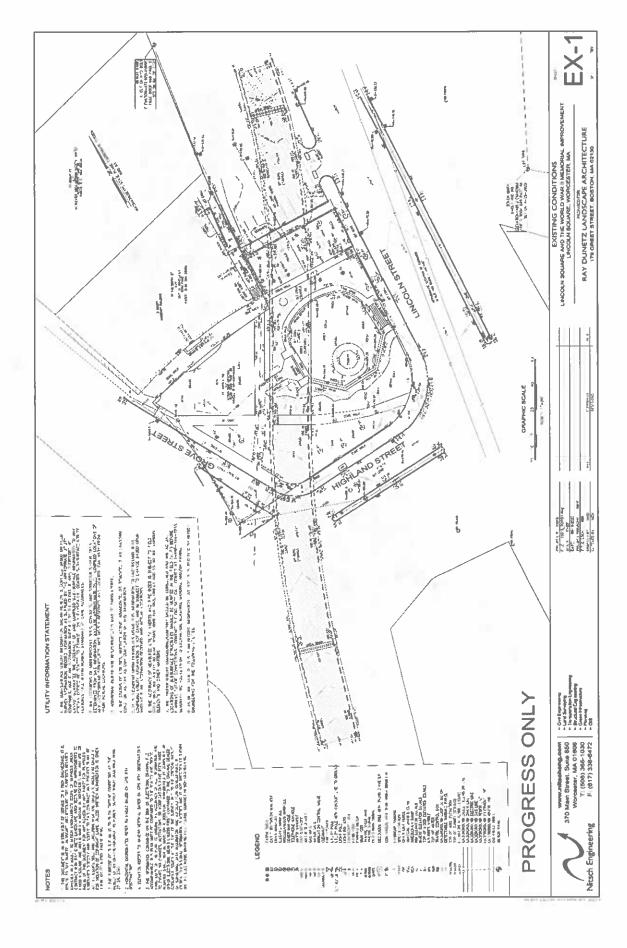




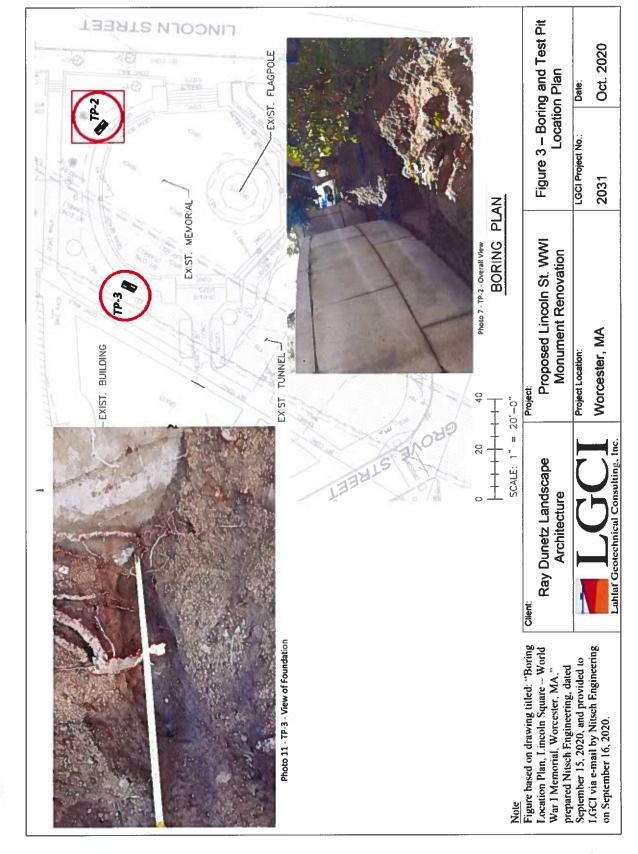




# **EXISTING CONDITIONS**



# **EXISTING CONDITIONS**









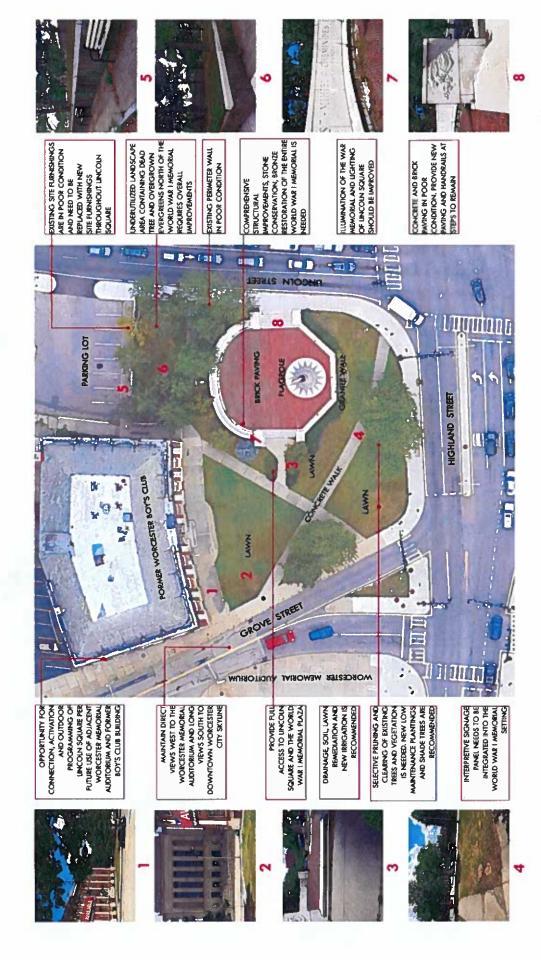






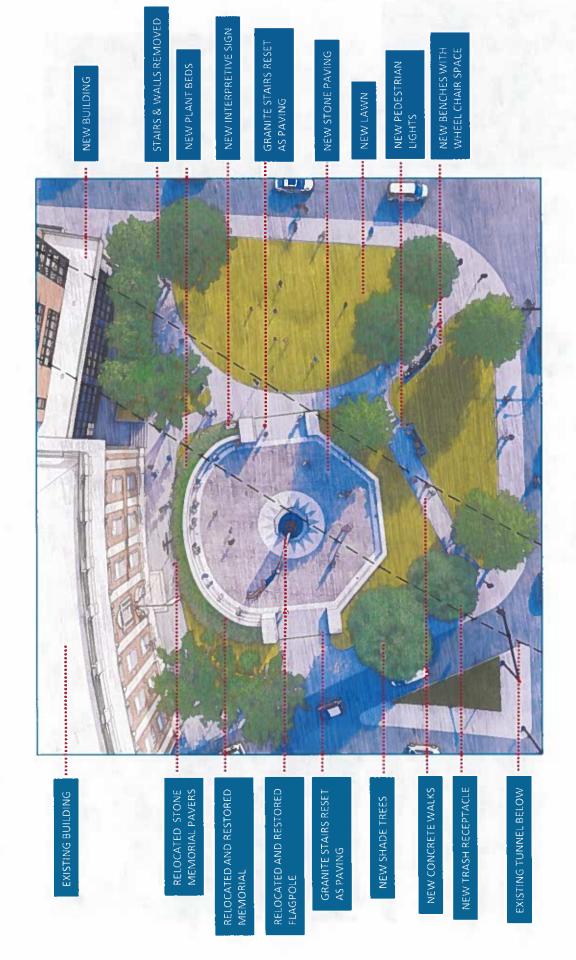


## SITE ANALYSIS



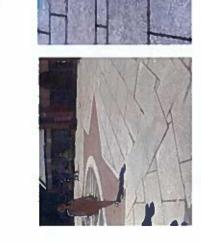


## CONCEPT





# PAVING & PLANTING













# SITE FURNISHINGS & LIGHTING







# INTERPRETATIVE SIGNAGE

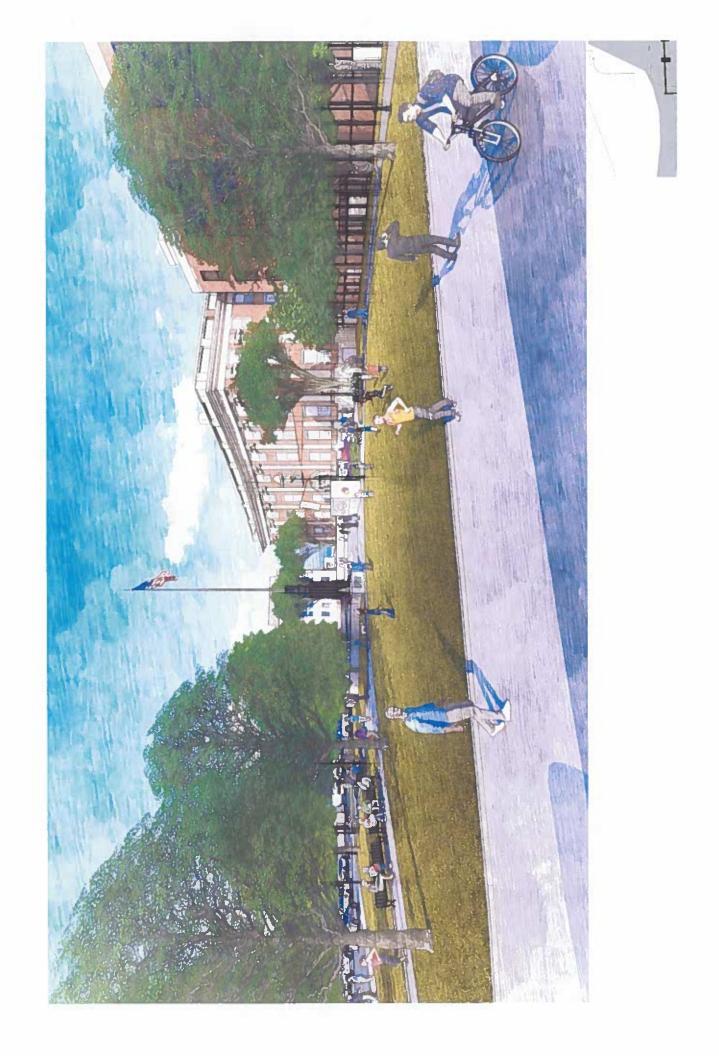


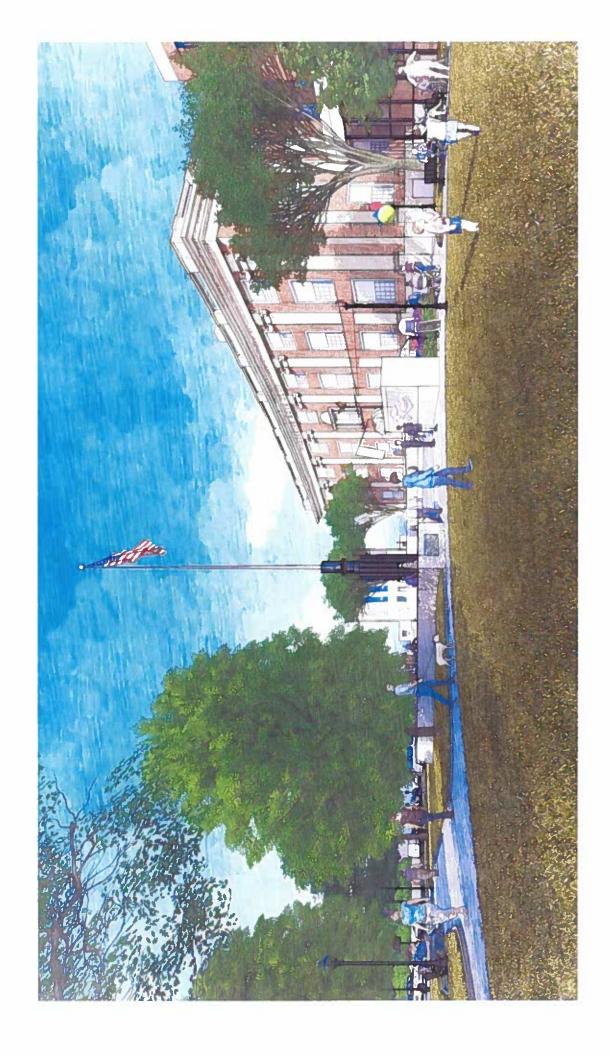




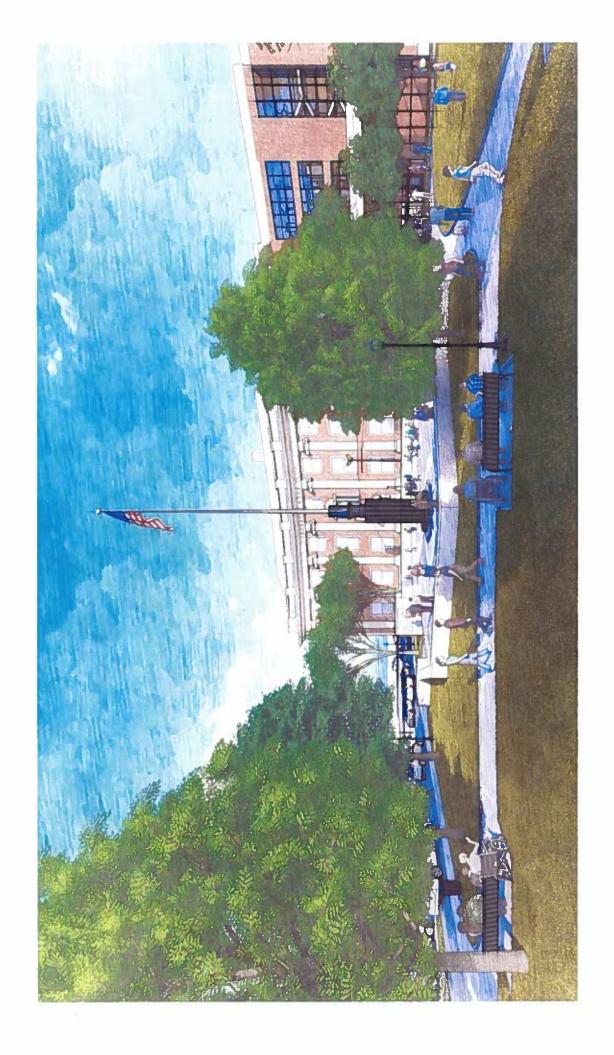












Discussion

Thank you!

Eric D. Batista City Manager CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2023oct12114433

Attachment for Item #

9.35

October 17, 2023

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully request City Council's consideration, deliberation, and adoption of the attached resolution to accept and expend a Fiscal Year 2024 grant in the amount of Fifty Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$50,000.00) from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Department of Conservation & Recreation for maintenance & services of the meres (ponds) at Elm Park in Worcester as received from Jay J. Fink, P.E., Commissioner, Department of Public Works & Parks, and forwarded for the information of your Honorable Body.

Elm Park is one of the first properties in the country purchased for park purposes and is in need of additional maintenance services to address the invasive overgrowth in/around the meres. This funding will assist in this endeavor and begin the overall development of improving these meres and Elm Park. No additional city positions are required to implement this grant.

The City of Worcester is grateful for this allocation in the state budget as it is critical to our efforts to combat this invasive overgrowth within and around the meres at Elm Park.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista City Manager

## CITY OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Department of Public Works and Parks

Jay J. Fink, P.E.
Commissioner of Public
Works and Parks

To:

Eric D. Batista, City Manager

From:

Jay J. Fink, P.E., Commissioner of Public Works and Parks

Date:

October 6, 2023

Re:

**Finance Request** 

I respectfully recommend adoption of a resolution to accept and expend a Fiscal Year 2024 Grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Department of Conservation & Recreation for maintenance services of the meres (ponds) at Elm Park.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Department of Conservation and Recreation is authorized within the FY24 state budget, to supply the City of Worcester with up to \$50,000 that shall be expended for the purpose of improvements to Elm Park in Worcester. Funding will be used for maintenance & consultant services associated with the three meres (ponds) at Elm Park in the City of Worcester and to continue combating the effects of invasive overgrowth. No additional city positions are required to implement this grant.

As per the resolution, I respectfully request this Department, under the direction of the City Manager, be authorized to accept, appropriate and expend this grant as Project # PRJ-100026 and Grant ID GRT-100549 from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Department of Conservation & Recreation.

Sincerely,

Jay J. Fink, P.E.

Commissioner of Public Works and Parks

A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND A FISCAL YEAR 2024 GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF NOT LESS THAN FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$50,000.00) WITH AND FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION & RECREATION TO CONTINUE IMPROVEMENTS TO ELM PARK IN WORCESTER

- WHEREAS: The Fiscal Year 2024 Massachusetts State budget includes line item, "that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the purpose of improvements to Elm Park in Worcester"; and
- WHEREAS: Funding from the State budget will be used for maintenance and services associated with the three meres (ponds) at Elm Park in the City of Worcester and to continue combating the effects of invasive overgrowth; and
- WHEREAS: Funding will be used for the maintenance and services of the meres at Elm Park; and
- WHEREAS: The City has secured the services of a professional aquatic management company to perform the required maintenance and services of the meres at Elm Park; and
- WHEREAS: Elm Park is one of the first properties in the country purchased for park purposes and is in need of additional maintenance and services to address the invasive overgrowth in and around the meres; and
- WHEREAS: This aquatic management program will enhance the quality of the Elm Park meres and is a win-win for the neighborhood and residents throughout the city.

## NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- 1. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to accept and expend the Grant with and from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Department of Conservation and Recreation.
- 2. That the City Treasurer, under the direction of the City Manager, be and is hereby authorized to accept and appropriate these funds into the DPW&P account for Elm Park.
- 3. That the City Manager be and hereby authorized to take such other actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of this grant to be administered by the Department of Public Works and Parks; Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division.

Eric D. Batista City Manager CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2023oct12113743

Attachment for Item #

9.35 C

October 17, 2023

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully request City Council's review, consideration, and adoption of the attached resolution to accept with gratitude a donation of labor & materials with a value of One Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$1,000.00) from the Fontaine Brothers Inc. received by Jay J. Fink, P.E. Commissioner, Department of Public Works & Parks and forwarded for the consideration of your Honorable Body.

This generous donation was used for the labor & material to build two wood picnic tables at Coes Pond Park (Binienda Beach).

I wish to extend my appreciation to Fontaine Brothers Inc. for their generous donation and support for the beautification of Coes Pond Park (Binienda Beach).

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista City Manager



## CITY OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Department of Public Works and Parks

Jay J. Fink, P.E. Commissioner of Public Works and Parks

To:

Eric D. Batista, City Manager

From:

Jay J. Fink, P.E., Commissioner of Public Works and Parks

Date:

October 10, 2023

Re:

Finance Request

Attached please find a resolution to accept with gratitude, a donation of Labor & Materials in the amount of One Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$1,000.00) from Fontaine Brothers Inc. This resolution is forwarded for your consideration and approval for submission to the City Council.

This generous donation was used for the materials and labor for the construction of two wood picnic tables at Coes Pond Park (Binienda Beach).

As per the resolution, I respectfully request that DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division under the direction of the City Manager, be authorized to accept this donation.

Please contact me if further information is necessary.

Sincerely.

Jay J. Fink, P.E.

Commissioner of Public Works and Parks

## A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT WITH GRATITUDE A DONATION OF LABOR & MATERIALS WITH A VALUE OF ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$1,000.00) FROM FONTAINE BROTHERS INC. FOR THE CONTRUCTION OF PICNIC TABLES FOR COES POND PARK (BINIENDA BEACH)

- WHEREAS: The City of Worcester, through the Department of Public Works & Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division was graciously offered a donation of labor & materials in the amount of \$1,000.00; and
- WHEREAS: This gracious donation was used for the materials and labor of two picnic tables at Coes Pond Park (Binienda Beach); and
- WHEREAS: The Fontaine Brothers Inc. donated the materials and labor of two picnic tables at Coes Pond Park (Binienda Beach); and
- WHEREAS: The two wood picnic tables will be placed at Coes Pond Park (Binienda Beach).

## NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- 1. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to accept this Donation of labor & materials in the amount of One Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$1,000.00) for the construction of two picnic tables.
- 2. That DPW & Parks; Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division, under the direction of the City Manager, be and is hereby authorized to accept this donation.
- 3. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to take such actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of this gift to be administrated by the Department of Public Works & Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division.

## A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT WITH GRATITUDE A DONATION OF LABOR & MATERIALS WITH A VALUE OF ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$1,000.00) FROM FONTAINE BROTHERS INC. FOR THE CONTRUCTION OF PICNIC TABLES FOR COES POND PARK (BINIENDA BEACH)

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester, through the Department of Public Works & Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division was graciously offered a donation of labor & materials in the amount of \$1,000.00; and

WHEREAS: This gracious donation was used for the materials and labor of two picnic tables at Coes Pond Park (Binienda Beach); and

WHEREAS: The Fontaine Brothers Inc. donated the materials and labor of two picnic tables at Coes Pond Park (Binienda Beach); and

WHEREAS: The two wood picnic tables will be placed at Coes Pond Park (Binienda Beach).

## NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that:

- 1. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to accept this Donation of labor & materials in the amount of One Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$1,000.00) for the construction of two picnic tables.
- 2. That DPW & Parks; Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division, under the direction of the City Manager, be and is hereby authorized to accept this donation.
- 3. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to take such actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of this gift to be administrated by the Department of Public Works & Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division.

In City Council October 17, 2023

Resolution adopted with gratitude by a yea and nay vote of Nine Yeas and No Nays

A Copy. Attest:

Nikolin Vangjeli City Clerk

Valm Vyan

Eric D. Batista City Manager CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2023oct12113812

Attachment for Item#

9.35 D

October 17, 2023

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully request City Council's review, consideration, and adoption of the attached resolution to accept with gratitude a donation of labor with a value of Five Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$500.00) from North Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters and Latino Club as received by Jay J. Fink, P.E. Commissioner, Department of Public Works & Parks and forwarded for the consideration of your Honorable Body.

This generous donation was used for the labor and construction of two wood picnic tables at Coes Pond Park (Binienda Beach).

I wish to extend my appreciation to the North Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters and the Latino Club for their generous donation and support for the beautification of Coes Pond Park (Binienda Beach).

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista City Manager



## CITY OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Department of Public Works and Parks

Jay J. Fink, P.E. Commissioner of Public Works and Parks

To:

Eric D. Batista, City Manager

From:

Jay J. Fink, P.E., Commissioner of Public Works and Parks

Date:

October 10, 2023

Re:

Finance Request

Attached please find a resolution to accept with gratitude, a donation of labor in the amount of Five Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$500.00) from the North Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters and Latino Club. This resolution is forwarded for your consideration and approval for submission to the City Council.

This generous donation was used for the labor and construction of two wood picnic tables at Coes Pond Park (Binienda Beach).

As per the resolution, I respectfully request the DPW & Parks; Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division under the direction of the City Manager, be authorized to accept this donation.

Please contact me if further information is necessary.

Sincerely.

Jav J. Fink, P.E.

Commissioner of Public Works and Parks

## A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT WITH GRATITUDE A DONATION OF LABOR WITH A VALUE OF FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$500.00) FROM THE NORTH ATLANTIC STATES REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS- LATINO CLUB FOR THE LABOR AND CONTRUCTION OF PICNIC TABLES FOR COES POND PARK (BINIENDA BEACH)

- WHEREAS: The City of Worcester, through the Department of Public Works & Parks; Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division was graciously offered a donation of labor in the amount of \$500.00; and
- WHEREAS: This gracious donation was used for the construction of two wood picnic tables at Coes Pond Park (Binienda Beach); and
- WHEREAS: North Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters and the Latino Club donated the labor and construction of two picnic tables at Coes Pond Park (Binienda Beach); and
- WHEREAS: The two wood picnic tables have been placed at Coes Pond Park (Binienda Beach).

## NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- 1. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to accept this Donation of Labor in the amount of Five Hundred dollars and No Cents (\$500,00) for the labor and construction of the picnic tables.
- That DPW & Parks; Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division, under the direction of the City Manager, be and is hereby authorized to accept this donation.
- 3. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to take such actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of this gift to be administrated by the Department of Public Works & Parks; Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division.

A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT WITH GRATITUDE A DONATION OF LABOR WITH A VALUE OF FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$500.00) FROM THE NORTH ATLANTIC STATES REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS- LATINO CLUB FOR THE LABOR AND CONTRUCTION OF PICNIC TABLES FOR COES POND PARK (BINIENDA BEACH)

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester, through the Department of Public Works & Parks; Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division was graciously offered a donation of labor in the amount of \$500.00; and

WHEREAS: This gracious donation was used for the construction of two wood picnic tables at Coes Pond Park (Binienda Beach); and

WHEREAS: North Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters and the Latino Club donated the labor and construction of two picnic tables at Coes Pond Park (Binienda Beach); and

WHEREAS: The two wood picnic tables have been placed at Coes Pond Park (Binienda Beach).

## NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that:

- 1. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to accept this Donation of Labor in the amount of Five Hundred dollars and No Cents (\$500.00) for the labor and construction of the picnic tables.
- 2. That DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division, under the direction of the City Manager, be and is hereby authorized to accept this donation.
- 3. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to take such actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of this gift to be administrated by the Department of Public Works & Parks; Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division.

In City Council October 17, 2023

Resolution adopted with gratitude by a yea and nay vote of Nine Yeas and No Nays

A Copy. Attest:

Nikolin Vangjeli City Clerk

Valm Jya-

# ICE SKATING ON THE OVAL A 12,000-SQUARE-FOOT ICE SKATING RINK IN THE HEART OF DOWNTOWN

Rockefeller Center. The Oval Ice Skating Rink, powered by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, has piped-in music, skate The City's 12,000-square-foot rink, which opened in 2012, is 4,000 square feet larger than the rink at New York City's rentals, concessions, holiday lights and more, making it a fun and affordable family-friendly activity. The rink is professionally managed by ASM Global, the DCU Center's talented management team.

## **FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS**



organizations and performances. A highlight for Festival of Lights visitors is the lighting of the tree, which will take place at 6 Common Oval. This free, family-friendly event will host a number of lighting features, ice skating, food vendors, community The City's annual Festival of Lights event will begin on Friday, December 1, 2023 from 4:30 - 9 p.m. on the Worcester

Headline Performance by Award-Winning Musical Artist Michelle Brooks Thompson, NBC's The Voice Finalist

- Performances by Worcester Public Schools Choral Groups and AMPP Worcester
- Interactive Roving Circus Perfomers and Fire Performances
- Complimentary ice skating for all attendees during the Festival of Lights will be made possible by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts. Skaters may bring their own skates or rent for \$5 per pair.
  - Santa Claus Meet & Greet
- Tree and Large-Scale Light Sculpture Lighting
- Heated Beer Tent
- Community Organizations
- 15+ Food Trucks, Face Painting, Street Performers, Carriage Rides and More!

Business Improvement District (Partner), DCU Center/ASM Global (Partner), Worcester Cultural Coalition (Sponsor), Rockland Partners: City of Worcester Cultural Development Division (Host), Parks and Recreation Division, Downtown Worcester Trust (Sponsor), Cumulus Radio (Sponsor)

## Premier Sponsors:



MASSACHUSETTS Holy Cross

COLLEGE OF THE





# 2023-24 HOURS OF OPERATION

Ice skating on the Oval will begin with the Festival of Lights Celebration on Friday, December 1, 2023.

## Regular Operational Hours

Fridays:	5 – 9 p.m.	
Saturday & Sunday:	1 – 6 p.m.	

## School Vacation & Holiday Hours

Monday, December 25 (Christmas Day):	Closed
Tuesday, December 26 - Thursday, December 28 (School Vacation):	1 – 6 p.m.
Friday, December 29 (School Vacation):	1 - 9 p.m.
Saturday, December 30 (School Vacation):	1 – 6 p.m.
Sunday, December 31 (School Vacation/New Year's Eve):	1 – 6 p.m.
Monday, January 1 (New Year's Day):	1 - 6 p.m.
Monday, January 15 (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day):	1 - 6 p.m.
Monday, February 19 - Thursday, February 22 (School Vacation):	1 – 6 p.m.
Friday, February 23 (School Vacation):	1 – 9 p.m.
Saturday, February 24 (School Vacation):	1 – 6 p.m.
Sunday, February 25 (School Vacation/Last Day to Skate):	1 - 6 p.m.

found by visiting the Oval Ice Skating Rink's Facebook and Instagram pages or by calling the Oval Ice Skating Rink Weather The Oval Ice Skating Rink will be open as the weather allows and any weather-related delayed openings or closures may be Hotline sponsored by Cornerstone Bank at 508-929-0777.

## GENERAL ADMISSION PRICING

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\$5.00		rior to Closing): \$6.00	iper Skate Guide: \$5.00 per hour
Group Admission (10 or More):	Children 5 and Under Skate Free	Rentals (Available Until 30 Minutes Prior	UMass Chan Medical School Little Helper

## **PRIVATE RENTALS**

Private rentals make for a great employee outing, birthday celebration, family gathering or other group activity. Restaurants in the area can provide refreshments or we can put you in contact with a variety of food trucks to select from for on-site options.

Private rentals are available on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, immediately before or after public skate times.

## Rental Fee:

- \$350.00 per hour with availability of rental skates\* for your attendees.
- \$300.00 per hour without access to rental skates.

\*Skate rentals are \$6.00 per pair.

To rent the Oval Ice Skating Rink for your private event please contact 508-929-0162.

## SKATE RENTALS

During public skating hours at the Worcester Common Oval, ice skate rentals will be available for \$6. You will need valid identification in order to rent skates.

# **ACCESSIBILITY AT THE OVAL ICE SKATING RINK**

The comfort of our guests is essential; therefore, The Oval Ice Skating Rink recognizes the special needs of those guests with may use The Oval Ice Skating Rink independently or with the help of a caregiver. Please note that caregivers are required to adaptive skating equipment may obtain the following at no cost (subject to availability) at The Oval Ice Skating Rink: Skate Assistance Trainers or Bobby, the Seal Skate Aids (suitable for children; weight restrictions apply). Guests with disabilities disabilities. The Oval Ice Skating Rink is accessible with ramps for guests to enter and exit off the ice. Guests who require wear ice skates while on the ice. Everyone's safety and pleasure in utilizing The Oval Ice Skating Rink is important.

similar devices) may be provided private access to the rink 1/2 hour before or 1/2 hour after public skate times for their use with Individuals with personal assistive devices (adaptive ice sport sleds, adaptive wheelchairs (Typhoon), bar seat walkers or other guests. There will be no charge for the enjoyment of The Oval Ice Skating Rink during these times. Please contact 508–929-0162 to schedule this option. A minimum of a one-week advance reservation is requested.

If you have questions, concerns and/or additional suggestions, please feel free to contact 508-929-0162.

## PLAN YOUR DAY

While at The Oval Ice Skating Rink, the Dogfather Food Truck is located on site for access to lunch or refreshments during

Before or after your time at The Oval Ice Skating Rink, explore the many other amenities near the Common. For a list of options, visit Discover Central Massachusetts

the underground Worcester Common Garage at 2 Eaton Place, Mercantile Center Parking Garage, Federal Plaza Parking Garage Additionally, there is plenty of affordable parking available within walking distance of the Worcester Common Oval, including When available, there is no charge to park in the City Hall underground garage adjacent to the Worcester Common Oval and the Pearl-Elm Parking Garage.

RINK RULES & SKATING SAFETY



## Department of Public Works & Parks Green Hill Golf Course

1929 Officer Manny Familia Way, Worcester, MA 01605

P | 508-799-1359 F | 508-799-1546

parks@worcesterma.gov

## Green Hill Golf Course 2024 Policy, Procedures and Fee Recommendations

## **Policy**

- Eliminate 9-hole bookings on weekends before 10 AM off hole #1.
- Allow back 9, 9-hole bookings from 6:30 to 7:30 AM

This policy is designed to maximize revenues for prime-time tee time space and minimize disruption of 18-hole traffic.

- Tier Pricing Schedule for outings- This policy would tier pricing to the amount of service required for the outing.
  - o Full-service outings \$95 for shotgun start (price unchanged), \$80 for tee time start. (price increase of \$5) includes:
    - Development of player listing in software, Tee time or shotgun assignments
    - Score card preparation, driving range, contests sign preparation, deployment, and retrieval.
    - Online scoring, announcements, sponsor sign deployment and retrieval, Per player pro-shop credit of \$10.
  - No service outings \$80 for shotgun start, \$65 for tee time start.
  - o Increase Outing shotgun start minimum from 72 to 84 players.
- Increase annual season permit rates by \$50 per category except for junior golfers.
- Increase Green Fees
  - Weekend 18 holes by \$2.00
  - o Senior 18 holes by \$1.00
  - o Morning Special by \$2.00
- Continue to allow the Director of Golf to recommend specials and marketing ideas to the Assistant Commissioner for approval

## Green Hill Golf Course 2024 Area Course Fee Survey

											•
	Unlir	mited Pass	5 D	ay Pass	18	Hole Weekday	18	Hole Weekend	Cart 18	Year	
Packachog	\$	895.00			\$	22.00	\$	28.00	\$ 20.00	2023	9 hole:
Leicester CC	\$	900.00	\$	800.00	\$	22.00	\$	28.00	\$ 20.00	2023	
Indian Meadows	\$	995.00	\$	775.00			L			2023	9 hole:
Gardner Golf Course	\$	1,100.00	\$	775.00	\$	37.00	\$	42.00	\$ 22.00	2024	
GREEN HILL GC	\$	1,450.00	\$	1,050.00	\$	40.00	\$	49.00	\$ 22.00	2024	
Heritage Golf Course	\$	1,500.00			\$	40.00	\$	50.00	\$ 20.00	2023	
Stowe Acres	\$	2,300.00	\$	1,700.00	\$	45.00	\$	59.00	\$ 20.00	2023	
Kettlebrook	\$	3,000.00	\$	2,600.00	\$	50.00	\$	85.00	\$ 20.00	2023	
Shining Rock	\$	3,300.00	\$	1,250.00	\$	69.00	\$	85.00		2024	
Blackstone	\$	3,410.00	\$	2,640.00	\$	47.00	\$	99.00	\$ 22.00	2024	
Highfields	\$	4,350.00	\$	3,275.00	\$	75.00	\$	85.00		2023	
Holden Hills					\$	55.00	\$	62,00		2023	
Juniper Hills					\$	49.00	\$	54.00	\$ 25.00	2023	
Wachusett					\$	55.00	\$	90.00	\$ 25.00	2023	
Red includes cart							_				-
											J