

**BEACHWOOD CITY COUNCIL  
RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2023, 5:30 PM  
at BEACHWOOD CITY HALL, CONFERENCE ROOM A  
25325 Fairmount Boulevard, Beachwood, Ohio 44122**

Called to order at 5:30 PM by Chairwoman Bellin Janovitz

**Roll Call**

Present – Ms. Bellin Janovitz, Ms. Shoykhet, Mr. Synenberg

Others Present – Mayor Berns, Mr. Burkons, Mr. Isaacson, Mr. Arietta, Mr. Ciuni,  
Mr. Hastings, Mr. Heiser, Mr. Schroeder, Ms. Turick

**Agenda Items**

1. Mayor's Report  
None.
  
2. Discussion and Presentation regarding the Playground Project and Restroom Pavilion Facility at City Park East  
There is no audio recording for this meeting. The following Minutes are recreated from notes from the Clerk of Council and a YouTube video that was recorded by Community Services Director, Derek Schroeder and made available to the public via Facebook and the City website.

Councilwoman Janovitz introduced this item and turned the discussion over to Mr. Schroeder.

Mr. Schroeder introduced representatives from MidStates and presented a PowerPoint to the Committee and Members of Council.

The Presentation discussed the location of the project, the condition of the current playground, missing elements of the current playground including a pavilion, music element, shade, wider walkways, and fencing. Mr. Schroeder also discussed the timeline of this project and included in the presentation that he and the Mayor first visited the Ohio Parks and Recreation Conference and Trade Show in February 2022.

Mr. Schroeder then discussed the 3 Ohio Playground Representatives that toured the City's current playground in March 2022 and discussed renovations. Those Representatives were GameTime, Burke, and MidStates Recreation.

Mr. Schroeder then discussed the \$700,000.00 Grant that the City received from the Cuyahoga County Council to go toward the purchasing of equipment for this proposed playground project. This Grant was awarded in August 2022.

Mr. Schroeder then discussed the selection process for choosing the Playground Representative. This process included Zoom calls with the Representatives and then qualifications were discussed amongst the Administration. The selection committee included Mayor Berns, Councilwoman Janovitz, City Administrator Tina Turick, Public Works Director Chris Arrietta, Finance Director Larry Heiser, Program Coordinator Frank Vicchiarelli and Community Services Director, Derek Schroeder.

In December 2022, the selection was narrowed down to 2 Playground Representatives. Mr. Schroeder again discussed that process including in person meetings with the remaining Representatives. Again, the selection committee met and discussed at length the two Representatives. MidStates was unanimously recommended. The selection committee again included Mayor Berns, Councilwoman Janovitz, City Administrator Tina Turick, Public Works Director Chris Arrietta, Finance Director Larry Heiser, Program Coordinator Frank Vicchiarelli and Community Services Director, Derek Schroeder.

Mr. Schroeder then discussed the results of the Playground Survey that was sent out to residents in January 2023. The data was analyzed and reported on February 3, 2023. 243 responses were received and Mr. Schroeder presented the results of this survey.

After the Survey response and analysis, the City received an updated concept plan from MidStates based on those Survey Results and Mr. Schroeder's comments. This occurred in February 2023. Included in this updated concept plan was itemized costs for all of the equipment, installations, freight, surfacing, site amenities, shelters, etc....

Mr. Schroeder then provided an updated timeline for this project. The following is what Mr. Schroeder proposed:

March 20, 2023 – Present at a Council Committee Meeting  
April 3, 2023 – Authorization to accept the \$700,000.00 Grant from Cuyahoga County  
May 15, 2023 – Committee Meeting with updated Project Cost Estimates  
June 12, 2023 – Authorization to Purchase Equipment and Equipment Installation  
July 10, 2023 – Authorization to advertise for bidding for construction  
September 5, 2023 – Bid Award for Construction  
Late Fall/Winter 2023 – Demolition/Removal of old Playground  
Winter 2023/2024 – Site Work, Grading, Drainage, Sewer  
Spring 2024 – Playground and Surfacing Installation  
Summer 2024 – Grand Opening

Mr. James Hobson, Director of Business Development, MidStates attended the meeting and presented to the Committee. This presentation included Current Playground Concept, Playground Theme, Play for all ages/abilities, Challenge Levels, Surfacing (rubber and turf), and the proposed Unique Features.

Mr. Hobson's full presentation can be seen during the YouTube video that was recorded by Community Services Director, Derek Schroeder and made available to the public via Facebook and the City website.

Mr. Schroeder returned to his presentation after the MidStates presentation to discuss current estimates. Those estimates included Equipment and Amenities (play, shade, pavilion, mounds, trash cans, tables, etc.) at a cost of \$1.22 Mil., Rubber & Turf Surfacing at a cost of \$465,430.00, and Equipment Installation/Shipping at a cost of \$590,915.00. Mr. Schroeder stated that the current proposed total estimate is \$2.3 Mil. which includes playground, surfacing, and equipment installation only. Mr. Schroeder stated that additional site work will be discussed by GPD Representative, Ivan Valentic.

Mr. Schroeder then discussed the Finance specifics including the Grant amount and total discount amount being provided by the Manufacturer.

The Committee then asked questions and Mr. Schroeder took a few notes regarding those questions. The following will be a summary of questions asked and answers provided.

Ms. Synenberg recommended that the City conduct a swing audit this summer to make sure we will have enough swings in the new design. Mr. Synenberg also recommended that the City make sure there are plenty of benches in the new Playground for ample seating options.

Ms. Shoykhet expressed how happy she was with the proposed fence, and liked the music and art components. She asked about warranty and servicing and MidStates was able to discuss those items. Ms. Shoykhet also liked the shade shelter and inquired about additional shade and discussed the restroom facilities.

Mr. Mintz discussed the carousel and stated that he was very happy to see that in the concept plans. Mr. Mintz also expressed that he is happy that the area is fenced in and discussed security cameras. Mr. Schroeder explained that there are currently cameras in the area and they may need to be repositioned after construction.

Mr. Mintz then discussed possibly changing the scope or size of the smaller child area including the addition of a playhouse.

Mr. Burkons stated that he would rather freshen up the playground every few years instead of this project.

Mr. Isaacson expressed concerns regarding the electrical element and how that may affect visitors who are observing Shabbat. This was addressed with the MidStates Representatives and it was stated that there is a way to turn this element off so that it would not interfere with visitors to the playground who are observing Shabbat.

Mr. Schroeder then briefly discussed the restroom pavilion project at City Park East.

He presented the project area and discussed the installation of a restroom and pavilion combination piece.

Mr. Schroeder then presented the project timeline as follows:

Project started in 2022

City Council approved funding for this project in 2022

Several companies were researched and Romtec had the best product.

- Romtec is the Architect and Engineer for this project
- Romtec will provide complete building plans that will be sent out for competitive bidding
- Romtec manufactures and supplies the complete building to be constructed
- Romtec offers significant savings

Mr. Schroeder then provided the Structure Estimate which is currently \$296,421.00 and stated that the Administration is currently determining costs associated with relocating the utilities.

Mr. Schroeder stated that another Committee Meeting will need to be scheduled when plans are more final and then an authorization to advertise for bidding will be presented to Council. Competitive Bidding will be for Utility work, concrete, and installation.

Bid review will then be completed and Council will accept the Bid and authorize any additional funding if needed.

As stated above, this recreated presentation is available on the City website and is accessible to the public.

There were no further questions or discussions on this item after the presentations.

3. Discussion regarding Agreement with Branden R. Burns, LLC to provide Poll Management Services through the end of the 2023 Season for the Beachwood, Ohio Family Aquatic Center

Mr. Schroeder briefly discussed this item and asked the Committee to include this on the next available Council Agenda for approval.

Rates and personnel were discussed and the Committee was afforded an opportunity to ask questions.

Ms. Janovitz then asked the Clerk to include this on the next available agenda.

Ms. Janovitz then asked if there were any further questions and there were none.

4. Any other matters coming before the Recreation and Community Services Committee  
None.

**Adjournment**

**Motion to Adjourn** - Moved by: B. B. Janovitz, Seconded by D. Shoykhet

Yays: 3

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Not Voting: 0

**MOTION ADOPTED**

Adjourn to the next Regular City Council Meeting at 6:50 PM

*Whitney M. Crook*

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Clerk

*Justin Berend*

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Mayor

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**Pursuant to Ordinance Number 2020-78 Council has determined that the Video Recording of the meetings shall stand as the official Minutes of its Body, its Committees, and those of the Planning and Zoning Commission.**

**A written synopsis of all agenda items and votes shall also be promptly prepared and kept.**