Utica Nebraska

Park Board

**April 17, 2025 Regular Meeting**

The Utica Park Board met in regular session on April 17, 2025 at 7:00 pm at the Utica Auditorium. Notice of this meeting was given in advance by posting in three designated places and advance notification of the Board Members electronically. Village Clerk, Rita Maier, introduced herself. Since this would be the first meeting, with all new board member she would start off conducting the meeting.

Board members introduced and told a little bit about themselves.

The Clerk announce that the Members of the Board had been duly appointed by the Board of Trustees.

The Clerk called the meeting to order at 7:13 pm. Roll call was answered by Erica Smith, Alicia Rathje, and Mat Volzke. A quorum was determined to be present. Also present were Board of Trustees’ representatives, McKenzie Parr and Nick Bloebaum.

The Clerk stated that the Open Meetings Act is located on the back wall for review

The agenda was corrected to read: Elect roles: Chairperson and Secretary.

Moved by Volzke, seconded by Rathje to approve agenda with corrections. RCV: Ayes: Volzke, Rathje and Smith. Nays: None Abstain: None. Carried.

**Public Comments**: None

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:**

* Motion Rathje, seconded by Smith to elect Mat Volzke, Chairperson and Alicia Rathje, Secretary. RCV: Ayes: Volzke, Rathje and Smith. Nays: None Abstain: None. Carried.
* Discussed that the usual term length is 3 years. There is no limit to the number of terms that can be served. It is advantageous to have terms staggered. Motion Rathje, seconded by Volzke to have Chairperson serve a 3-year term ending in December 2027, the Secretary will serve a 2-year term ending in December 2026 and the other member to serve 1-year term ending December 2025. RCV: Ayes: Volzke, Rathje and Smith. Nays: None Abstain: None. Carried.
* Village Board Report: None
* During Seward County Gives week, Trustee Parr will have a table at the courthouse to take donations for the ballfield concession stand. Smith also volunteered and Rathje if possible.
* As part of Seward County Gives Week, Daylight Donuts will be in Utica. Trustee Parr will assist them.
* Pool hours & rates: Trustees approved to leave rates the same as 2024. Hours will also remain the same. Swimming lessons will tentatively be June 9-20th. Sign up and payment can be done at the pool or online.
* Parr discussed that Utica Foundation wants to add playground equipment at the Pool Park. Trustees will vote of this at May meeting.
* Board members discussed the best dates for the members to meet on a monthly basis. It was decided to meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the auditorium.
* Members discussed some of the projects the board has been and will continue to work on. The Concession stand/ restrooms at the ball field, accessibility into the tennis courts and any other projects that the members might think of. The Board will seek grants to help with these projects.
* The Board discussed Utica Days. They are interested in doing some kind of activity/fundraiser.
* Parr will work at getting Board Members added on g-mail and Facebook accounts.
* Members should continue to recruit others to join the Park Board.

Motion Rathje, seconded by Smith to adjourn at 8:13pm/

Next meeting will be May 13, 2025, at 7:00 pm at the Utica Auditorium.

Submitted by

Rita Maier

Clerk/Treasurer