

Utica Nebraska-Parks and Recreation
Board Meeting Agenda
January 27 , 2026 at 7:13 PM at the Utica Senior Center
520 D St, Utica, NE 68456

Roll Call:

- -Mat Volzke Present
- -Alicia Rathje Present
- -Randy Steinhausen Present
- -Mitch Peeks Present
- -Derek Dubas Present

Open Meeting Act- located on the back wall

Approval of Agenda

- Motion – Steinhausen
- Second – Rathje
- Vote
 - Volzke Yes, Rathje Yes, Steinhausen Yes, Peeks Yes, Dubas Yes
 - Vote Passes

Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

- Motion – Rathje
- Second – Steinhausen
- Vote
 - Volzke Yes, Rathje Yes, Steinhausen Yes, Peeks Yes, Dubas Yes
 - Vote Passes

Public Comments:

1. Concession stand –
 - a. Randy offers to put in time and effort into finding a cheaper bid/spec, for ballfield concession stand.
 - b. Peeks did do a spec of design
 - c. Village is taking specs provided by Peeks to find other builders, for quotes.
 - d. Do we need a ballfield manager hired by village?
2. Pool
 - a. Leak identified and will be mitigated. Randy requested to be at the pool when construction to fix leak is done. Dillon will be there too.
 - b. Sonar- Can sonar results be shared with Park Board
 - c. Vote for Randy attending fix of pool

- i. Motion – Rathje
 - ii. Second – Peeks
 - iii. Vote
 - 1. Volzke Yes, Rathje Yes, Steinhausen Yes, Peeks Yes, Dubas Yes
 - iv. Vote Passes
- d. Lifeguards- hiring process started. Randy requested to know if Park Board has any say or ability to recommend who is hired for lifeguards.
- e. Non Lifeguard on staff to answer parent questions. A citizen requested we consider allowing a non-lifeguard to be staffed to answer questions, as to not interfere with lifeguard duty.

Old Business:

#1) Concession stand/restroom at the ball field : No updates. Question asked but not answered; what do we need to do in order to keep this project moving. Nick B is following up with a Lincoln ball field organization.

A-Bids

B-Drawings

#2) Grants

A-Grants for trees

B-Available Grants to pursue

#3) Utica Parks and Rec. logo

A-Drawing

#4) Trees : no update. Alicia said she will try to follow up with this.

A-Tree City Application

B-Publish Tree Plotter data on village website

#5) Pool

A. Soil scans and other assessments

B. Epoxy condition

C. Accessibility of building

D. New pool awnings - How much to add one for the Kid pool? Question asked, not answered.

E. Management Responsibilities

F. Future of the pool - Discussion

Expecting to open the pool this spring 2026 as long as Village Board agrees. Maintenance team to review Epoxy condition.

#6) End of Summer Fun Day/Utica Days 2026

A. Fund raisers - See Trevor Fehlhafer's Car Show August 1, 2026. This would be a good day for someone to organize a Utica Days festival

- B. Games
- C. Food and Drink
- D. Events and Activities
- E. 2027 is 150th celebration of town

#7) Budgets & Reimbursements from Board

New Business:

#1) Village Board report – Nothing to add

#2) Term lengths for new Parks and Recreation members:

(3 year, 3 year, 2 year)

- Randy Steinhausen - 2 Years
- Mitch Peeks - 3 Years
- Derek Dubas - 3 Years
- Motion – Steinhausen
- Second – Rathje
- Vote
 - Volzke Yes, Rathje Yes, Steinhausen Yes, Peeks Yes, Dubas Yes
 - Vote Passes

#4) Election of Officers:

- Chairman - Mat
- Vice Chairman - Derek
- Secretary - Alicia
- Motion – Volzke
- Second – Dubas
- Vote
 - Volzke Yes, Rathje Yes, Steinhausen Yes, Peeks Yes, Dubas Yes
 - Vote Passes

#5) New Events and Fundraiser Ideas - None

#6) Parks and Rec Section of Website - Alicia to ask Rita for access/training

#7) Selection of day for monthly meeting 3rd Monday of the Month

- Motion – Steinhausen
- Second – Rathje
- Vote
 - Volzke Yes, Rathje Yes, Steinhausen Yes, Peeks Yes, Dubas Yes
 - Vote Passes

#8) Discussion - Time permitting -

A-Open Meeting Act

B-Ordinance #32.04 BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
Bylaws (if any/if needed?)

C-

Next Meeting: February 16th

Motion to Adjourn: Rathje; Second: Peeks

Meeting adjourned at: 9:07 pm