



# MINUTES PARKS AND OPEN SPACE BOARD MEETING

May 23, 2023 | 6:30 pm

Council Chambers

City Hall | 665 Country Club Road, Lucas Texas

## Call to Order

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The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm. A quorum was determined to be present, and the Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

### Parks Board Members Present:

Chairman Bill Esposito  
Vice-Chairman/Alternate Member John Elliott (*arrived at 6:45 pm*)  
Member Kenneth Patterson  
Member Christel Parish  
Member Laura Giles  
Alternate Member Joan Phillips

### Staff Present:

City Manager Joni Clarke  
Assistant City Manager Kent Souriyasak  
CIP Manager Patrick Hubbard

### City Council Liaison Absent:

Councilmember Dusty Kuykendall

### Parks Board Members Absent:

Member Pam Poteete

## Regular Agenda

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### 1. Provide an update on the 2023 Lucas Farmers Market season.

The Parks and Open Space Board discussed the May 13, 2023 Lucas Farmers Market that was held with rainy day market modifications. Chairman Esposito indicated that come-and-go presentations have worked well for the Backyard Chickens and Mushroom Foraging/Growing events. Chairman Esposito noted these events are a great opportunity to provide fun and learning at the Lucas Farmers Market.

### 2. Discuss recommendations for the proposed Parks Budget for fiscal year 2023/24 and provide guidance to staff.

Assistant City Manager Kent Souriyasak presented the proposed budget, outlining that most items would remain with the same funding. Assistant City Manager Souriyasak noted that funding for special events would remain the same. Chairman Esposito opined on whether an intern was needed for special events and other park planning and Assistant City Manager Souriyasak noted this was not included in the proposed budget. The Board had no further guidance to staff.

**3. Consider supporting and recommending a resolution to the City Council to approve the submission of a grant application for a proposed northern trail project to the Collin County Parks and Open Space Project Funding Assistance Program.**

CIP Manager Patrick Hubbard presented on the Collin County Parks and Open Space Project Funding Assistant Program for a proposed trail project connecting the East Winningkoff Trailhead to the Trinity Trail. CIP Manager Hubbard presented the application process and asked for input from the Board on direction for project goals and ideas. Chairman Esposito asked for the size of the first phase of the trail project. CIP Manager Hubbard advised the Board that the first phase is approximately 8,000 feet.

Chairman Esposito asked for approximate estimates on next steps in the project. Mr. Hubbard advised that he has yet to gather the estimates for this project. Assistant City Manager Kent Souriyasak advised the Board that the cost for the previous proposed trail project near Lovejoy High School was approximately \$300,00, which included crushed granite. Chairman Esposito asked for specifics on granite and materials to be used on the trail. City Manager Joni Clarke advised on what granite would be used, along with other specifics on constraints and planning for the trail project. Ms. Clarke advised on other issues along the road that may cause setbacks when planning for Phase 2. Alternate Member Phillips asked about the line between Orr Road and Welbourn Lane. Ms. Clarke advised it is owned by North Texas Municipal Water District along with nearby land leased by a private owner.

Member Giles asked whether the Phase 2 residential properties would need easements. Ms. Clarke advised that easements would not be needed. Mr. Hubbard advised that the properties on the west side already had easements while the east was still owned by North Texas Municipal Water District.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Alternate Member Phillips, seconded by Member Patterson to support and recommend a resolution to the City Council to approve the submission of a grant application for a proposed northern trail project to the Collin County Parks and Open Space Project Funding Assistance Program. The motion passed unanimously by a 4 to 0 vote. Member Poteete was not present.

**4. Consider supporting and recommending a resolution to the City Council to approve the submission of a grant application for new playground equipment at Forest Creek Park to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Local Park Grant Program.**

CIP Manager Patrick Hubbard presented on the progress of the grant application, including a previous cost estimate of \$263,000. Member Giles asked what happens to the outdated equipment. Mr. Hubbard advised that it would be demolished. Assistant City Manager Kent Souriyasak advised that the equipment wouldn't be able to be donated or reused. Member Giles asked about the possibility of getting another estimate for equipment. Mr. Souriyasak advised that the highest available grant amount was \$150,000 and that depending on the targeted age range would determine final cost. Member Giles expressed concerns regarding budget and the use of tax dollars. Chairman Bill Esposito and Mr. Hubbard advised that the purpose of the resolution and discussion is to determine if an application should be submitted in order to open up the opportunity for grant funding.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Member Patterson, seconded by Vice-Chairman Elliott to support and recommend a resolution to the City Council to approve the submission of a grant application for new playground equipment at Forest Creek Park to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Local Park Grant Program. The motion passed unanimously by a 4 to 0 vote. Member Poteete was not present.

- 5. Provide an update on the graduate intern project for developing the process to conduct a parks survey.**

Assistant City Manager Kent Souriyasak presented on the progress of the park survey intern project. Mr. Souriyasak advised that Graduate Intern Jonathan Lawrence will give a presentation at the Parks and Open Space Board meeting on July 25, 2023. Vice-Chairman John Elliot advised that he is excited to see real feedback from City of Lucas park usage.

- 6. Provide updates on city-maintained parks and recreational facilities including the Lucas Community Park, Kenneth R. Lewis Park, Forest Creek Park, and East Winningkoff Trailhead.**

CIP Manager Patrick Hubbard presented on improvements at the Lucas Community Park, completion of repairs at Kenneth R. Lewis Park, and work being done to a dog watering fountain at Kenneth R. Lewis Park. The Board had no further discussion.

- 7. Consider approval of the minutes of the March 28, 2023 Parks and Open Space Board meeting.**


**MOTION:** A motion was made by Member Giles, seconded by Member Patterson to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2023 Parks and Open Space Board meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously by a 4 to 0 vote. Member Poteete was not present.

- 8. Adjournment.**


**MOTION:** A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Elliot, seconded by Member Patterson to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 pm. The motion passed unanimously by a 4 to 0 vote. Member Poteete was not present.

Adjournment

APPROVE:

  
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Bill Esposito, Chairman

ATTEST:

  
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Kent Souriyasak, Assistant City Manager