

1. **Meeting Called to Order** – The meeting was called to order by David Spirk at 6:30 p.m. at Steel City Park
2. **Roll Call – Present** – Dave Spirk, Chairman; Tom Butera, Vice Chairman; Keith Meier and Frank Thompson, Members. Jason Banonis, Council Liaison; Tracie Raven, Staff. Absent: Niloofar Aflatooni, Bill Ross, Krista Baum.
3. **Approval of August 2, 2021 Minutes** – Tom Butera moved for approval of the August 2, 2021 minutes, second by Dave Spirk. Motion passed 4-0 (Absent – Niloofar Aflatooni, Bill Ross, Krista Baum)
4. **Presentations** – None
5. **Citizen Non-Agenda Items** – None
6. **Updates**
  - **Blessing Boxes – Town Hall & Steel City Parks** – Kristen Lockett was present. She wanted to give recognition to Hayden Jebitsch. She said two things are going on. Everyone is excited that the first Blessing Box was put up in Steel City Park. Mason Kessler, Eagle Scout, contacted Kristen via LV Business Group and offered Blessing Boxes that could go to LST. Mason had two Blessing Boxes and Kyle Kessler has two Blessing Boxes. Hilary Jebitsch said Hayden needed/wanted to do two Blessing Boxes for her church at St. Teresa's. There were original funds that were supposed to be used for the Blessing Boxes before Mason & Kyle came along. Kristen returned the materials and gave the funds from the return to Hillary for Hayden's project. Mason supplied his boxes/materials 100%. Kelly Schoch to take pictures of Mason and Hayden. Atom Kallen is doing a great job on maintaining the Little Free Library. Dave thanked Kyle, Mason and Hayden, but more thanks to the parents who have their children that can do this. Mason has a third box at Polk Valley Park, and a fourth box is an emergency food bank, maybe in Hellertown. Kyle has two that are purple and green and a little smaller. They can be painted of course. Dave asked for pictures and can recommend to Council to approve where they'll go. Kristen will investigate emergency food banks in the Township. Atom has checked out the Blessing Boxes at Steel City Park a couple of times a week to make sure food isn't spoiled. Donna Louder was concerned when the sun comes up if there's a way to hang something over the top to keep it shaded. Dave didn't know if it's shining through the Plexiglas. Dave said they can take a look at them and see if they can do anything. Atom said there is a possibility of spoilage which is a concern in the summer. Mr. Paul Miller asked if the spoilage would cause sickness then in turn the Township would be liable.

Dave asked if there were any concerns. Kelly Schoch asked who takes care of the weeds. Donna Louder said it's a wildflower garden. She had a meeting with Roger Rasich a few weeks ago and expressed her concern. She sees animals going in and out and she wants this taken care of and is still waiting for a response. The second problem is the 4Q budget talk – the park is like a prison yard. Completely enclosed in chain link fence and gates. Dave said the reasoning was when this was planned, the concern was that small children would run out into the street. Donna was present during those meetings. Nothing was done according to plans. Paul said he disagreed with Dave and said there was supposed to be a volleyball court. Everything was changed. They were supposed to have lavatories. The basketball court was the only thing that is there that was shown on the plan. Tom Butera said are you not happy with the park. Paul said the whole thing is a disaster. Kelly asked if there will be some money in the budget for this park. Jason Banonis said there are a lot of nice aspects to the park. He said we're not going to wipe the slate clean and start over. We need to find out what your concerns are and address them. The drainage ditch can be fixed, and we can mow and plant grass. He can suggest improvements, maybe some plantings along the border to beautify it.

Donna said they wanted to put a lot of shrubs around the fence and the shrubs would limit visibility in the park for the Police Department. Jason said the developers can provide some plants or an

allocation to plant them on Paul's side of the fence. Dave said to Kelly that we tried the southeastern wildflowers and it eventually becomes successful but can take over a decade. They did not do well at the Lutz-Franklin Schoolhouse. Lutz-Franklin and Steel City are wet areas. Maybe just plant grass or river rock in the basin. Dave asked Kelly what she wanted. Kelly said maybe grass can be planted.

Motion by Dave Spirk to recommend to Council to have the Planner look at the basin at Steel City Park and come up with a plan and a better solution. Second by Tom Butera. Roll Call: 4-0. Absent: Niloofar Aflatooni, Bill Ross, Krista Baum.

Paul thought the fence was going to be green. He spoke with Kenny years ago from Public Works. He said it's really bright. Donna said the grant money was used on the park. The double fencing in the playground was there to stop balls from coming into the playground, \$60,000 later (grant) for a composting toilet. Donna voted against that because it's a small enough community that kids could just go home and go to the bathroom. Paul said he's not happy that all we got was a parking lot. He spoke with Roger a couple months ago to discuss noisy backstops and banking boards (not echoing), fence line and the lights. Roger said he was going to put vinyl slats in the fencing and plant arborvitaes. Paul said he would plant some on his side and pay for some of them. Roger never got back to him. The Amber cover blew off the street light after a bad wind storm. PPL came in and swapped out the lights for LED's. Roger was going to make a cover but he never got back to Paul. He wants a resolve and Roger is not doing anything. The park was closed for a period of time during the pandemic per Governor's orders. In April and May no kids had been at the park (teens). Dave asked how do we pay for the electricity. Jason said it's a fee we pay to PPL and it's not on a meter. Dave asked if a different light fixture could be put up on the west side of the pavilion to illuminate the area. Jason said it's designed to light up the parking lot. He asked if a smaller fixture could be put up near the arborvitaes and it would illuminate the parking lot. A similar fixture can be moved to a pole on the opposite corner of the playground. Paul said he has concerns about teenagers not coming to the park. Donna said these kids are now working. Jason asked if the light near Paul's house lights up the basketball court. Paul said he doesn't know. Donna said the park is closed at dusk period. This is an enforcement issue. Dave said nothing has been done with the backstop, lights and shrubs.

Motion by Dave Spirk, second by Keith Meier to recommend to Council to direct the Planner, the Chief and Public Works to look into these issues brought up by Mr. Paul Miller that have been going on for two years to see if we can do anything to help Mr. Miller – noise, banking backstop (echoing), shrubs for privacy and look into the lighting issues. Also put the bench that Donna Louder donated to park on concrete so that the weed whacking doesn't damage the bench. Roll Call 4-0, Absent: Niloofar Aflatooni, Bill Ross, Krista Baum.

Dave said he was sorry to Paul and we'll try to do better. Donna said the family spent a lot of dollars to donate the bench near the playground. Roger came out, put some dirt and planted seed and it sank. She's afraid of it being a tripping hazard. Dave said it seems logical to put something impervious like concrete that would be flush with the grass. Donna said that with the weed whacking may damage the bench. Jason said put the bench on top of the concrete. Also add this to Paul's issues for Council.

- **Snack Stand at Polk Valley Park** – Refer to minutes from 3 – 5 years ago. Block structure to start. Dave said no electricity or water. Jason said I thought you wanted electricity from existing electricity for crock pots, hot dog roller, etc. He said water may be down the road. No further discussion.
- **Recreation Fee** – No action
- **Special Events Applications** – None presented

- **Eagle Scout Project (Logan Kade)** – Frank said Logan is proceeding to purchase materials and to build the kiosk. He'd like to have it completed by October 31, 2021. He will be contacting Public Works for a hole to be made to install the two posts. He determined the best way to transport the kiosk would be for it to be in two pieces. He will install it and he'll bring both sections and the posts to the location. Once it is set up, he'll install the Plexiglas on the hinges at the location. Once he's purchased and built the kiosk, he'll submit the receipts to the Township to reimburse him. Dave said maybe Logan can call Tracie to get the holes in the ground done by Public Works and the receipts for reimbursement. Tracie asked Frank to share her contact information with Logan. Frank said he won't be submitting all the invoices because some of the materials will be paid for by the Scout Group he's in. Frank encouraged Logan to move along due to issues with getting his materials needed to coordinate and install.

8. **Old Business**

- LV Rose Society – Frank said the Rose Garden was awarded to another municipality. It was first come, first serve.

9. **New Business** – None

10. **Public Comment** – None

11. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Dave Spirk at 7:27p.m.; second by Tom Butera. Motion passed

12. **Next Meeting:** Monday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 at Southeastern Park.