

# City of Pataskala Parks and Recreation Department Council Report

## Lenier Crawford, Parks Manager

### Administrative

- **Parks Advisory Board meetings being held in park in 2022**
- **Project updates**
  - **Aeration of Ponds:** Installation of the aeration system at Liberty Park has been scheduled with Aqua Doc.
    - Liberty Park is the only pond we will be completing this summer. Citizens Park will be delayed until construction can be completed on a new headwall (also this summer) (Public SERVICE)
  - **Security Cameras:**
    - Foundation Park is complete. Maintenance garage and concession stand area
    - Municipal Park: Installation completed
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- **Pool Season is here: The opening of our facility has presented some challenges. In addition to coordinating a replacement transformer with AEP we have also replaced the main electrical box and wires. We also replaced the main pump breaker/coil (Need thermal overloads for completion of the work). Jess Howard has been the contractor on the job and had been very responsive helping us to open on Memorial Day. All of this work is considered preventative maintenance, and these upgrades ensure that we are up to code at our aquatic facility.**
- **Foundation Park: Athletic Field Development Project:** Preliminary planning for the future of our parks and recreation program growth. Parking will be included in the plan as well.
  - Currently in our unfunded CIP we have athletic field improvements. We are in the process of obtaining a feasibility study for Foundation Parks open space to add additional fields to help with our existing programs (Soccer) and will be a resource for other leagues within the community who need open athletic field space for practices and games. We are working with Verdantas to obtain a site image of the site work. This feasibility study will be completed by September 2022 to ensure that I can potentially apply for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (ODNR) This is a 50% match grant for the development and rehabilitation of recreation areas.
- **Citizens Park planning:** The goal this year is to apply for a nature works grant for Citizens Park. We are currently waiting on a site plan from Midstate Recreation. The nature works grant does carry a 25% match requirement from the city. The goal would be to apply for improvements two years in a row This years grant would mostly be allocated for engineering. This grant application is now due July 15<sup>th</sup>.
- When finished the project will include:
  - Add/Upgrade Parking lot on site

- Add caged basketball court
- Add an aggregate walking path around the perimeter of the park and connect to Faith Ann (Taylor Rd)
- Grade field area to add greenspace so that its usable space for the West Side of Pataskala. Athletic Fields

### **Parks and Recreation News/ New Updates:**

- News:
  - **Pool Recruiting to cover operating hours continues. We have plenty of employees but due to vacations and summer activities for most of the staff we are still recruiting to help cover gaps. The recruitment includes lifeguards and swim instructors/guest services.**
  - **June 29th 2022 Parks Manager will be taking an exam to become a Certified Parks and Recreation Professional (CPRP):**
  - **We are offering a summer youth soccer program in July This allows for interested youth to continue to participate in soccer activities until the fall soccer season starts.**
  - **Licking Memorial will be using our facilities for Walk with a Doc program on July 30<sup>th</sup>.**
  - **Outdoor Adventure Day: Fishing, Archery and more: June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022**
  - **Pataskala Chamber 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event: June 11<sup>th</sup>: planning is in progress. The event will take place at Foundation Park. An outdoor movie, music, & vendors are just some of the events planned.**
  - **United Way 5k July 2nd, 2022: Confirmed the race for July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Registration is on going**