



**Council Report**  
**City of Pataskala Parks Department**  
**Lenier Crawford, Parks Manager**

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➤ **New Items**

• **Freedom Park**

- Donated plants and shrubs plan
  - The plants and shrubs donated to the City by Strader's Garden Center will be planted throughout the parks system within the next two weeks. Most of those plants will be placed at Freedom Park.

• **Karr Park**

- Shelter house analysis
  - We had the shelter house structurally inspected at no cost by The Garland Company.
    - They provided a thorough analysis of the exterior of the shelter house with suggested repairs.
    - Those repairs have been completed for this location.
- Peace Pole
  - The parks department has received the Peace Pole from Jean Hunkler and will be installing the pole within the next couple of weeks.

• **Volunteer Park**

- Fence Repairs
  - The Parks Department Auger attachment is not sturdy enough for this job. We will be borrowing the one from the Public Service Department to do this work. This repair will be complete prior to August 31<sup>st</sup>.

• **Liberty Park**

- Routine Maintenance

- **Citizens Park**
  - Routine Maintenance
- **Foundation Park**
  - Routine Maintenance
- **Municipal Park**
  - Volleyball Court
    - The volleyball court system has been purchased. It will be installed within the next month.
- **Recreation Program**
  - Pool Chlorine Pump
    - The automatic chlorine pump at the pool has malfunctioned. This resulted in a chlorine level that was too high on July 23. The repair for this equipment cannot be completed until the week of August 5.
      - After further investigation of the chlorine concerns with the pool we have found that the automatic controller system is operating fine. The issue with the automatic controller system was caused by the staff not changing the acid tank as required. This concern has been addressed to staff and will not occur in the future. We have not had any concerns since the last closing.
  - Soccer
    - As of 8/14/2024, we have 570 participants registered for the fall soccer season.

➤ **Ongoing Items**

- **Foundation Park**
  - Ball Diamond Maintenance
    - We anticipate adding drainage pipe on diamond 2 and 3 along the first and third base lines later this year, following the baseball/softball season.

- **Municipal Park**

- Volleyball Court
  - The volleyball court system has been purchased. Once received we will plan to install this structure within the next month.
- Hemlock Control
  - The parks department has been performing checks for Hemlock. We have found, cut, and sprayed this plant in several areas within the park. We will continue to monitor the hemlock along the pathway to minimize exposure and risk to visitors to the park.

- **Karr Park**

- Compost area
  - This composting area was rarely used, if ever. We will plant low maintenance, native plants in the area once the compost area is removed.
    - This area has been filled in in preparation for planting.
- Peace Pole project
  - This project is to install a “Peace Pole” at Karr Park. The Peace Pole will be donated to the city by The Granville Friends organization.
    - The parks department has received the Peace Pole from Jean Hunkler and will be installing the pole within the next couple of weeks.
- Shelter house analysis
  - We had the shelter house structurally inspected at no cost by The Garland Company.
    - They provided a thorough analysis of the exterior of the shelter house with suggested repairs.
    - Those repairs have been completed for this location.

- **Citizens Park**

- The parks department has surveyed this property and started laying out the areas where a split-rail fence will be installed.
  - The Faith Ann entrance that connects the woods to the Northwest Corner of the park will be included with this small project.

- **Volunteer Park**

- Fence Repairs

- The Parks Department Auger attachment is not sturdy enough for this job. We will be borrowing the one from the Public Service Department to do this work. This repair will be complete prior to August 31<sup>st</sup>.

- **Freedom Park**

- Basketball Court

- The basketball court project is complete. We have seen a very large number of our residents using this new park feature.

- **Liberty Park**

- Fencing

- The fence around the parking lot was hit by a car around 7-8-24. That fence has since been repaired.

- **Park Manager Updates**

- Municipal Pool

- Columbus Pool Detection was hired and came to the facility on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.
      - As shown in their report, several repairs were needed to prevent water loss. The pool facility was closed to the public and the swim team on June 13<sup>th</sup> for the final repairs to be made.
      - One line coming from a skimmer in the pool will need to be excavated and repaired. This will take place after this pool season, but before the pool season begins in 2025.

- Pool Chlorine Pump

- After further investigation of the chlorine concerns with the pool we have found that the automatic controller system is operating fine. The issue with the automatic controller system was caused by the staff not changing the acid tank as required. This concern has been addressed to staff and will not occur in the future. We have not had any concerns since the last closing.

- Youth Soccer

- As of 8/14/2024, we have 570 participants registered for the fall soccer season.

- We anticipate 6 middle school teams.
  - All coach positions have been filled.
- Strader's Garden Center
  - Strader's Garden Center has 226 perennial plants and shrubs that they wish to donate to the Pataskala Parks System. The plants have a value of \$6,270.74. This donation will have to be accepted by the council due to the dollar amount.
    - The plants and shrubs donated to the City by Strader's Garden Center will be planted throughout the parks system within the next two weeks. Most of those plants will be placed at Freedom Park.
- Employee certifications
  - The parks manager will be obtaining a renewal of license to operate the pool facility this season. The parks manager anticipates obtaining the AFO certification or the CPO certification.
  - The parks manager will be renewing his Certified Parks and Recreation Professional Certification prior to September. This is a two-year certificate period. This is due in September 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

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