



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

➤ New Items

▪ Citizens Park

- Fence Installation Project
- This project will be continuously worked on dependent upon the temperatures throughout February and March. We aim to complete 150 ft of fence each trip on site.

▪ Parks Manager Updates

- Facility Rentals (Ball Diamonds)
- Our facility rentals for all ball diamond facilities are booked through the Spring into the Summer months. We are eager to provide quality fields for the local teams and schools using our park facilities.
- Aquatics
- The administration held a kickoff meeting with Columbus Pool Management on January 27th to prepare for the upcoming season. The discussion focused on daily operations, including staffing, maintenance, and lifeguard coordination, as well as collaboration with the swim team. The administration is eager to begin this new partnership and is confident in the decision to contract with a third-party vendor for pool operations.
- Fall Youth Soccer Registration Numbers
 - As of January 14th, we have 460 registrations for the spring season.
 - Registration for the Spring season opened on November 4th and will end February 7th, 2025.
- Seasonal Employment
 - We are accepting applications for seasonal positions for both Parks Maintenance and Concessions until February 7th.

➤ **Ongoing Items**

▪ **Foundation Park**

- The Foundation Park Parking Lot Project
 - The administration applied for an ODNR Land and Water Conservation Grant. This grant will be used along with the \$100,000 in the 2024 budget to increase parking areas in the park.
 - Still waiting for the award announcements
- Pond Aeration Project
 - Electric installation for the aeration system is being planned for late February no later than the second week of March for the completion of this project.
 - The parks department has identified a contractor to dredge the pond. This work remains planned for mid-February.
- Energy Cooperatives Operation Roundup Grant Application
 - The Parks Department has identified a need for enhanced security at the Conaway's Trail Shelter and will be applying for an \$8,000 grant through the Energy Cooperatives Operation Roundup program. This funding will be used to:
 - Install an electric panel.
 - Add 1–2 security cameras.
 - Install a pack light for improved visibility.
 - Energy Cooperatives staff will handle the installation of the electric panel, with a local electrician extending the connection to the shelter and adding the light. Security cameras will be provided and installed by State Security, the same company we've successfully partnered with in the past.
 - This grant would fully cover the cost of these improvements, enhancing safety and usability at the shelter. Application will be submitted by the 7th of March.
- Foundation Park Trail
 - Areas on the aggregate path need some attention due to washout. Within the woods along the trail, we will be focused on removing trip hazards present by tree roots within the walking path.

- **Municipal Park**

- Pool buildings
 - By the end of February parks staff intends to clean out the back garage at the pool. This will increase the amount of storage available for the Parks Department.
- Volleyball Court
 - The department has decided to wait until early spring to install the volleyball system due to the winter weather approaching.
- Damaged Rotary Park Bench
 - Parks staff has moved a bench from the playground area on to the concrete pad to replace the damaged bench for now.
- Parking Lot
 - Parking Blocks are being ordered to be installed along the parking lot edge near the pool building.

- **Volunteer Park**

- Parking Lot
 - We are dragging the lot due to excessive tire tracks from cars doing donuts in the parking lot.
- Ball Diamonds
 - All ball diamonds will receive attention in late February. Additional infield mix material is required on the east ball diamond.

- **Citizens Park**

- Ongoing Maintenance

- **Liberty Park**

- Ongoing Maintenance

- **Freedom Park**

- Ongoing Maintenance

- **Karr Park**

- Ongoing Maintenance

- **Park Manager Updates**

- Parks Building Maintenance
- The Parks department received a free report on the condition of all of the buildings/ structures within our Parks system following an inspection conducted by Garland who specializes in this type of thing.
 - Many of the items identified as in need of corrective action can be done in-house. Parks staff is currently gathering costs for those repairs. The repair work will begin within the month of February.
- Employee certifications
- The parks maintenance coordinator will use the off-season to study and to take the state test to be a licensed herbicide applicator.

Respectfully submitted,

Lenier Crawford CPRP

Parks Manager

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