

**Minutes  
Public Hearing  
Washington Street Park  
Recreation Grant Application  
Throop Borough Council  
Wednesday, October 4, 2000**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**ROLL CALL:**

**Members Of Council:**

Joseph Keyasko-A

Vice President - Anthony Chrzan-P

George Marushock-P

President - Joseph Barone-P

James Barnick-P

Robert Mraz-A

Thomas Lukasewicz-A

**Mayor** - Stanley Lukowski-P

**Controller** - Daryl Menichetti-A

**Solicitor** - Attorney Louis Cimini-A

**Treasurer** - Lenore Dolan-A

**Valerie Taylor, Marvin Brotter's Office:**

This is the advertised public hearing for the discussion of the Washington Street Park Recreation Project. This is a grant that we're going to be putting in to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and it's for improvements. There are other important sections of the grant program we're going to go on the review projects. Basically, what we need to do, the first thing on the agenda would be to really come up with ideas and lists of conclusions that you're interested in.

**Mayor**-Where do we start? Let me say something. A few years ago we got a big grant for that park and (unclear) with bulldozers, this, that and the other. I don't know why, right field goes up like that. Then you go center field, it goes down. I don't, it's, there's a rock formation there it would have to be blasted out of there somehow. It's a terrible field, it really, really is. Plus, you have a very short left field. When you have a short left field, it's (unclear) short right field, and you have a short left field. So, I don't know, we just have, what is left field? 270 feet over for a homer? 300 for a left field fence.

**Barone**-That right field is shale (unclear) salt and rock.

**Mayor**-You mean to live with that forever?

**Barone**-I don't know, it's got to blast to come out of there.

**Shevchik (Jamie)**-I think the biggest problem down there is the infield itself. The way the field is right now it has to be, in my opinion, it has to be dug out. The whole entire infield has to be taken out and a new infield has to be put in. It's totally, it's all uneven. Every spot you go to is uneven. The infield had sunk and the conditions are real bad. It does not drain at all. To take the whole thing out and put a new one in, \$10,000.00. That's probably with drainage and everything.

**Barnick**-I'd like to see bleachers in too, a couple sets.

**Mayor**-Yes, that's what our field has been lacking for a long time. This is our field, this is the worst part.

**Shevchik**-I think the three main things that should be looked at, lights I know are expensive. I mean,

you're looking at, I have an estimate right here of mine, and that's \$85,000.00. Just to drop them off at the field. That's a lot of money.

**Chrzan**-I remember the one down here only cost \$25,000.00.

**Shevchik**-The field is half the size of it. And that's, \$85,000.00 is the minimum that you can go for the height and the amount of lights for that size field. And that's just to drop the lights off, the posts, and leave. \$85,000.00. There are two estimates here for our field. One is for \$85,000.00 and that's for 6 posts throughout the entire field and then there's one for 8 posts, it would be more lighting at \$125,000.00. Again, just to drop them off. That's Musko Lighting who does all the lighting, projects, anywhere. You go anywhere, you'll see Musko Lighting. They're from Philadelphia. I don't know if you want to go the light route right now, it is kind of expensive. If we're going to cancel out the lights, the three things that I think that are needed down there is (1) a new infield (2) bleachers, and (3) dugout work, extending the dugout with the storage area. I talked to our engineer, I gave him some ideas on what we were looking for. I don't know if he ever came back.

**Frank Galli**-More bathrooms, because the bathrooms are all the way up to the pavilion. Everybody's down at the other end of the field, (unclear) they have to run all the way up to the pavilion.

**Shevchik**-A concession stand also was mentioned to be put in behind the backstop area. If I would cut out anything out of there, it would be the concession stand. Once kids leave little league and they go out, I mean, the attendance goes down a little as to who watches the games. There is a concession stand a little farther up, if I'm to cut anything out of there, I would cut the concession stand out.

**Shevchik**-Restrooms, new dugouts, an infield.....(interrupted).

**Mayor**-For a long time, bleachers were on surplus. If you work both for the state or federal government, I would make a few calls. (Unclear). So I would check that out before we spend any money for bleachers.

**Barone**-Where would you put the bathrooms?

**Shevchik**-Probably (unclear) behind the home plate area.

**Barnick**-Then it's getting a sewer line up there.

**Shevchik**-Landscaping work has by far been the biggest need there.

**Barone**-So you don't want a concession stand?

**Shevchik**-If I would put anything out, it would be the concession stand.

Everyone spoke at once and a discussion took place.

**Shevchik**-You do have a concession stand there, just a little further away.

**Barnick**-Restrooms, definitely.

**Shevchik**-Restrooms, bleachers, an infield, and some (unclear) on the dugouts.

**Barnick**-Bleachers could be gotten through the surplus. To eliminate that. Just go for the infield and restrooms.

**Shevchik**-Mr. Bernosky, he should have sketches of everything, I gave him the dimensions on all the block work that would be ideal down there. He should have something. The infield is a (unclear) right now. A half hour rain on that field and you're washed out for a day or two. It has to be taken out. The whole infield has to be (unclear), built up, and then tapered off again. Or the water would run out to the outfield. Right now everything just comes down to the middle and sits on the dirt.

**Marushock**-Would we need to incorporate drainage there for that infield?

**Shevchik**-Not if you do it the right way. If you taper the dirt off the (unclear) to the outfield, which it should be, I don't know if you're going to need that much drainage or at all.

**Barnick**-(unclear) run a sewer line, pump it up the street.....there's a pumping station there, that's all the way down on Murray Street.

**Shevchik**-A lot of people do a lot of things, you do have gravity flow and that's how they do their drainage. The way our field is, especially when we put the track in, it's so much lower, all the water runs off the hill and off the track into the field.

**Marushock**-How about if we, perhaps, constructed a retaining wall, perhaps behind the backstop behind home plate. (Unclear)...perhaps gravel drain (unclear) something there, to contain the water before it entered the field, if that's the source of the water from the hill, try to contain it and stop it before it gets to the field, channel it back, probably there it would actually be better because now we could have some pitch coming off the hill.

**Shevchik**-And the infield itself, it's so uneven the water sits. Instead of, the water should actually land on the dirt and run off into the outfield, that's the way it should be. If it was skinned and ironed out and tapered the right way it would probably just run out. Most of it.

**Marushock**-Jamie, the price of about \$10,000.00 that you mentioned for the infield repair, would that include any drainage? Or that just to elevate the infield?

**Shevchik**-That's just to take it all out and put in for that field. That wouldn't include drainage. It will taper out to where it should drain, is the outfield, the way it should be. I really don't think we're going to need drainage as far as pipes going from the outside of the field.

**Barnick**-If anything you could put a drain tower on the outside of the deal and it would drain off naturally. But then I'm talking about the restrooms is going to be the biggest, it's going to be a big one because you have to pump it. There's no way of getting around it when you have to pump it, up from off the street, Goodman, Dunmore, Adams Court.

**Marushock**-Even if we constructed restrooms on top of the hill?

**Barnick**-Still, there's no way of getting around it.

**Shevchik**-There is a line that runs through, right through the center of the field, I don't know what that it.

**Barnick**-Through the center of the field?

**Shevchik**- Right through the center. I remember a couple of years ago they dug up that field and they put some kind of liner right through the middle of the field, I'm positive, in the outfield. I don't know if it was for sewer or what.

**Barnick**-The school property is hooked at the bottom of Murray Street. At the very bottom there's a pumping station, it's pumped up Murray Street out toward Dunmore where Cypress.....It's pumped out to Cypress Street. Adams Court is the Sewer Authority's line. That end of Adams Court, the Sewer Authority owns that one. Goodman Street, we had problems up there. You could put it if you have the pump, I don't know what a pump would cost for two sets of restrooms for something like that. It shouldn't be that much because you're not putting a massive pumping station in like down on Vaughan and Murray Street. I mean it could be done. But you're going to have to pump for sure, there's no doubt about it. You'll have to make the building a little bit bigger so you could put the pump out in that area.

**Taylor**-That's why you need to, you have to think within terms of what you need because the borough now, with this grant, if you have to come up with 50% on the (unclear) matched grant.....

**Barnick**-That's what I'm saying, if we keep it limited we can, say we want it for \$100,000.00, \$50,000.00 maybe we'd be able to come up with it, that shouldn't be a problem.

**Taylor**-So, infield, restrooms and dugout.

**Barnick**-That would cover it. Now bleachers, they were talking about going through that surplus thing. If we can do it, fine. If not, I know bleachers over there at the Civic Center, which they were a lot better, they're \$10,000.00 apiece. Them up there would be a whole lot different, they're aluminum ones, so they should be a little bit cheaper, I would think.

**Shevchik**-I think it came out to, the prices that we got, two big sets, good size sets of bleachers came out to about \$12,000.00. Two sets. I think they were about \$6,800.00 apiece.

Everyone spoke at once.

**Barnick**-That's my opinion, that's the best way to go for it, make a provision for a little pumping station.

**Galli**-How would it affect the grants chances the fact that there already are public restrooms in the park?

**Taylor**-I think it does apply because from what they were saying they're on the other side of the park. If

you can justify where you need them on that end, if all the activities are going on at this end, as long as you can justify the need.

It was mentioned that the restrooms are more than 400 feet away, possibly further, and someone in a wheelchair would have a hard time accessing them (distance).

**Shevchik**-That's probably the four main things that you're going to need, what we talked about, even the bathrooms being the last of the four.

**Barnick**-Well, why don't you get the number for surplus and check on bleachers.

**Taylor**-So, just a quick question. When it does rain do the kids play?

**Shevchik**-No.

**Galli**-Our team played six, five, home games this year out of fifteen. There were five teams playing up there this year.

**Shevchik**-Nobody played the entire schedule. There's over 75 games scheduled there in the summer between the five teams. That's almost every day there's a game. If there's a rain out that game is basically out for the year, just from our schedule. A discussion took place about the use of the field. When questioned, Frank stated he was one of the coaches to the teams, the teenager league.

**Mayor**-We didn't mention this, that field is used for more than baseball and softball. There's football and soccer. So there are other sports, and parties.

**Marushock**-We're applying for \$100,000.00 grant to add lights?

**Taylor**-I'm not sure yet until I see the engineer. Tentatively the borough would be responsible for half of it.

Motion by Barnick

Seconded by Marushock

To adjourn the meeting.

**Galli**-We must get pay phones up there in case there's an emergency. We should get a couple of pay phones placed. There was an incident up there that happened a couple of Sundays ago where a child got hurt. There's no pay phone, the kids came from one of the parents houses just down on Goodman Street. Otherwise the kid would still have been, I mean, he got injured playing up there and at least if there was a pay phone up there and if one of those kids would have dialed 911 and the ambulance would have come up and got that kid.

**Jack Dolan**-Mentioned the phone company taking the phones out and a discussion took place over the reasons they are being removed.

**Galli**-Don't they put phones in, in case of an emergency type thing in case something happens like that.

**Barnick**-Put in something like they use on the highways, used for emergencies. Elaine, could you call the phone company and ask them about that?

A discussion took place, everyone spoke at once.

Minutes by Christina Sullivan, Assistant Secretary

Elaine Morrell, Administrator/Secretary