

A special meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at 7:00 pm in the Aldermanic Chamber.

President Lori Wilshire presided; City Clerk Daniel Healey recorded.

Prayer was offered by City Clerk Daniel Healey; Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons led in the Pledge to the Flag.

Let's start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance.

The roll call was taken with 15 members of the Board of Aldermen present: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire.

Mayor Jim Donchess and Corporation Counsel Steve Bolton were also in attendance.

PRESENTATION

- Services and Operations of the Parks and Recreation Department

President Wilshire

I'm going to recognize Superintendent Bryan Conant.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

Thank you. Good evening everyone. I'm Bryan Conant, Superintendent of the Parks and Recreation Department. President Wilshire, Board of Aldermen thank you for having me in tonight to talk about the Parks and Recreation Department.

Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for 38 parks and 21 squares or public spaces, approximately 900 acres, 150 mowing acres, roughly 34,000 linear feet of trim that we do around fences around the parks, 44 irrigation systems. Some of the maintenance includes mowing, cultural practices, fertilization, pest control, irrigation, seeding, spring and fall cleanup, graffiti removal, vandalism clean-up, and structural repairs.

The Parks and Recreation Department is made up of 18 full time employees and we maintain 38 baseball and softball fields, 23 playgrounds, 26 tennis and pickleball courts, 18 rectangular fields or soccer/lacrosse fields, 14 basketball courts, 4 boat ramps, 3 pools, 1 splash pad, 2 wading pools, 3 ice rinks, 2 skateboard parks, a street hockey court, a bocce court, shuffleboard court, and a sledding hill at Roby Park.

A lot of our tree work is a big part of what we do, especially around storm events and emergency tree removal. The City does not maintain trees on private property but we will move trees out of the road or sidewalks if they fall into the public right away making travel dangerous for pedestrians or motorists. We also maintain the trees obviously located in the city parks.

When it comes to snow removal, we're responsible for 8 city plow routes. They're mainly in the inner city and 14 of the schools. We're responsible for snow removal during the winter.

Holman Stadium - one of my favorite places. It's currently the home of the Nashua Silver Knights that competes in the Futures Collegiate Baseball League. They provide affordable fun entertainment for the Greater Nashua area. The stadium also hosts a local high school sports, Babe Ruth, college baseball teams – Rivier and we also obviously hold our fireworks display there during the Fourth of July which is very heavily attended.

Stellos Stadium belongs to the School District but the Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for maintaining the facility. The schedule is maintained by the recreation side of the department as well. It's designated a student only stadium that is utilized by both Nashua public schools and BG High School.

Mine Falls Park. It's a bit of wilderness right in the heart of Nashua boasting over 300 acres. We have miles of trails, streams, canals, even an old gatehouse and dam. In the spring and summer definitely the busiest time of the year for the use in the park. In addition to walking and hiking trails, we also have boat and kayak launches for our visitors to

use. Mine Falls is a great place to snowshoe, cross country ski in the wintertime. In addition to that there's a 20-acre sports complex with 6 soccer fields and a softball field that's lighted.

Parks and Recreation playgrounds. Obviously it's a big thing we're responsible for. We're constantly going around and looking at the playgrounds trying to solve issues before they arise whether that's a broken swing, a broken slide, you name it.

Court rehabilitation. Tennis has always been a very popular sport here in Nashua. We offer courts at Greeley Park, and Shady Lane, and also Sargent Ave. More recently, Pickleball has become increasingly popular. We have courts at Greeley Park, new courts at Shady Lane and Field Groves which is pictured here in the right. We're always keeping our eyes out for new activities to offer residents.

The City has three public pools that are located on Burke Street in Crown Hill, Sargent Ave. near Holman Stadium, and Cleveland Street adjacent to the Fairgrounds Elementary School. These pools offer swim lessons each summer and a safe place to keep cool for Nashua families during the summer months. We have staff of over 25 lifeguards that work with us to keep these pools open each year.

I'd like to highlight some of the projects that we've accomplished in 2023. We had a new playground installed at St. Andrews Park. We had new lights installed at the softball field at the Labine softball field. We had a new dock at Sandy Pond. Atherton Park had a full renovation. A playground has been installed that was never there, new basketball court, parking area, and two under-utilized baseball fields have been converted to soccer fields. I think that'll be a great addition to our park system. Lions Field and Field Groves have had new courts this year as well.

All right. Some of the programs that are made possible through our park system. Nashua Summer Fun schedule offers something for everyone from well attended events such as Fairytale Festival, opening day, DPW day, Wheels and Wings, to the weekly concerts that are held at Greeley Park. There's always something to look forward to. Over 23,000 people attend these free events and concerts each year. Everything you just viewed on the previous slides is incredibly important because without the existence of maintenance of our parks, we would not be able to offer these wonderful programs to our residents.

Some of the recreational programs that are here listed. Here's a more detailed look at it at. Biddy Basketball is the largest program in the State. We also offer Babe Ruth and softball and in a partnership with several different organizations, we offer soccer, and lacrosse, and football.

In addition to our other recreation activities, Nashua is proud to host a large variety of camps for our residents. Everything from skateboard camp, to archery, to natural camps, and really so much more. They're very reasonably priced and over 2,000 kids will attend our camps each summer. We deny no one admission to any of our city-run camps.

Special events. The City of Nashua hosts some fantastic events such as the Fourth of July fireworks pictured here on the left and also Brew Fest on the right. Thousands of residents and visitors attend these events each year. Again, I'd like to say thank you for having me here tonight and I'd be happy to answer any questions if you have any.

President Wilshire

Alderman Thibeault.

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you, Madam Chair. I have a few questions so I'm sorry about this. As you know, parks is one of my favorite things in Nashua and I'm not the only Alderman. I'm sure there's a few of us here that feel that way. So 18 full-timers. Is that fully staffed or are you guys needing - do you have open spots currently?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

So we have 18 full-time staff laborers. There's also three foremen and myself with a budget of \$3.5 million. Are you asking me if the 18 laborers...?

Alderman Thibeault

Are there any open right now?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

Do we have open positions? Yes. We've had some turnover this year with some retirees and currently right now, we do have three open positions.

Alderman Thibeault

Follow up?

President Wilshire

Yes.

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you. Even with 18, it doesn't seem like enough because there's so many parks and so many different things you guys do. So like I said before, you guys do a great job of maintaining that. It's what makes part of the City so great. It's the events we do and it's the programs you guys offer.

How do you prioritize work? So for instance, you know, I only go to a couple of fields for baseball, so I don't see all the fencing. So if there's a fence broken and we talked about it underneath behind home plate there, fences curled up and you can get caught on, right?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

Yes.

Alderman Thibeault

But I don't know any of the other fence projects around the City because there's so much of it. How do you prioritize? Do you guys have a queue of like what's an A project, to a B, or a C, and how fast something gets done?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

So I think we try and prioritize things about what season we're in, you know, and take a look at it by that. You know we're constantly going to these different sites that we maintain and trying to, you know, see what's wrong and see what needs to be fixed. You prioritize it a lot of the times by how hazardous something is. If it's extremely hazardous, we need to get it fixed immediately, right. Most of the time in the parks, there's kids there. No, that's unacceptable if it's not addressed in a timely fashion. So that's how we prioritize things.

Alderman Thibeault

How is it - I mean there's so many parks to upkeep. How bad is vandalism to hurting some of the parks? Like is it a big part of what's going on out there or is it very little?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

Honestly it's one of the most aggravating things I find about this job. We are constantly trying to maintain these parks at a high level. I've come in here and I've tried to increase that level. The staff has been more than willing to try and accommodate that and what I'm trying to accomplish. I constantly find us going and trying to have to repair vandalism in these parks and it takes away from us maintaining them at a higher level, or doing something else to make it better, you know, and doing a project that adds something. We're constantly going around and covering up graffiti or fixing something that's been smashed. Yeah you can tell I find it aggravating.

Alderman Thibeault

Follow up?

President Wilshire

Yes.

Alderman Thibeault

So I mean, you know, all the years coaching I'd go to parks that are kind of like say Jackson Field over by Lincoln Park there. It's down below so kids can go in there, burn down a port-a-potty, or write all kinds of things. You know you always find things like needles, and bottles, and so it's really hard to find a way to do that even more policing still doesn't can't cover every single hour of the night. So I get that. That's something big. What about...

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

It affects our cost of business. We just recently went out on a three-year contract for our portable toilets. The cost went up significantly. I attribute it to the burnt port-a-potties. The vandalism that they have to deal with.

Alderman Thibeault

Holman Stadium. I've heard that that may be needing some upgrades soon. What's the status of upgrades on that and when that would be coming to us at some point?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

You know I think Holman Stadium is in need of some funding. There's some structural issues there that need to be repaired before they become unrepairable. There's locker rooms in there that I don't think have been repainted in a long time. I think there's lead paint in there. So, yes, I've done some work. I've written up a pretty detailed report on what I think we need for funding there and hopefully we can hopefully accomplish that.

Alderman Thibeault

One more?

President Wilshire

Yes.

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you. Sorry. You can tell I love this department. So I'm like I want you guys to have the best I guess stuff from us or from the City that can make these parks the greatest. So because you're right if you don't have to fix some of this stuff, you have more money to do things.

Last question. I saw all the offerings you guys have - camps and all the different sports we have in the City. Have you thought about like is there any new offerings in the future? I know this is probably not going to be something but, you know, years ago we had a Nashua hockey team. So are there any new offerings, any new sports, or anything coming out that would benefit the city?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

You know I think we're always looking at what becomes trendy. We're willing to, you know, provide that whatever the public wants. Do I know of anything immediately coming down the pipeline? No I do not but we're always there ready to listen and ready to try and serve the general public in Nashua.

Alderman Thibeault

Great. Thank you for all you do.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

Thank you Alderman.

President Wilshire

Alderman Dowd.

Alderman Dowd

Yeah I just want to reiterate you guys do a great job but I know you're short staffed.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

Thank you Alderman.

Alderman Dowd

And you mentioned about clearing the snow at the schools. Can you elaborate a little more on that because the custodians do the sidewalks, you do the streets, and I know that you coordinate with the school maintenance people a lot more than that?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

We do.

Alderman Dowd

So if you could just for the Aldermen and the people at home explain a little bit more about your coordination with Shawn Smith and the School Department.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

Yes.

Alderman Dowd

And the other question that goes along with that is I don't think either you or Shawn have somebody that's a - I don't know what they call them a plant specialist. We have all kinds of trees and shrubs in all your parks and all the schools but I don't think we have somebody that knows how to take care of those properly. I mean at the new school, we hired Morin's and we've learned an amazing amount in just a short period of time with their specialists. I think that's something we're missing because replacing trees and shrubs is really expensive. If you don't take care of them right, you know, it's pay me a little now or pay me a lot later. So could you talk about your coordination with the School Department?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

So in terms of the School Department Alderman Dowd during the winter we're in contact usually with Shawn and Gary Connors who I believe is Shawn's right-hand man. Depending on what they're trying to, you know, communication with them and in communication also with the Street Superintendent Jon Ibarra. Let's not forget him. You know it depends on the storm. You know is it going to be a light storm? You know what are we going to do? Are we going to have to come in early and treat the schools with just salt? Is it going to be an all-night event? So, you know, these things vary depending on the weather but to answer your question, it always starts with a conversation between all of us. It depends on the storm how we're going to react so.

Alderman Dowd

And as to the...

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

In terms of the horticulturist, you know, I mean I have a degree in Plant, Soil, Insect Science. I know a lot about horticulture, landscape design. Your idea isn't bad but the whole thing too is funding. You know I like to come in here and have great ideas. We should spread this on these trees, and we should use Holly Tone on the plants that like acidic pH, and all these various things but how do you fund these things? So it's great to have the knowledge at the end of the day. I don't get you wrong. I agree with you but you need to have the funding too to supply the materials that you need to accomplish what you need to accomplish.

Alderman Dowd

Share it between the two departments.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

I mean just to give you a glimpse, I mean we mow 150 acres okay. We don't treat 150 acres. We treat about 80. I try and pick out the high-profile parks, the athletic fields, and that's all that gets treated. The rest of it is "organic" not treated so.

Alderman Dowd

Okay. Thanks.

President Wilshire

Alderman Moran.

Alderman Moran

Thank you, Madam President. Thank you Superintendent. You guys do a great job in DPW and Parks. I had a great meeting with Director Fauteux a couple of weeks ago with the Mayor and one thing that came out of that is not a commitment because the Mayor is too wise to make commitments right now but the understanding that your Department needs to expand and that we want to look at that for the next budget season. Of course, we have to get past Alderman Dowd as well but I think even filling those three openings wouldn't do it for you of all the areas that you need to cover in the City.

A more poignant example is the climate change that's happening. You can see it with this past storm how busy your team was just in summer. It's still the summer. You can only imagine the recurring weather crisis we'll have as the climate change worsens and your team is on the front lines of that and having enough staff is extremely important whether it's shoveling sidewalks, plowing, or helping people out of cars that are stranded. I know we have other first responders here like the Fire and the Police Department but I think you guys are just as equally as important to the City as they are making sure that people get critical services. So hopefully that understanding turns into a commitment when the Mayor is re-elected.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

I hope so.

Alderman Moran

But I will definitely say I will be a thorn in the side on this issue next budget season. If the other guy gets in, I'll be more of some barbed wire so.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

Thank you.

President Wilshire

Alderman O'Brien.

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you, Madam President. Superintendent I really want to thank you for the work that you did at St. Andrews Park. I received a lot of positive feedback from the people. I know myself personally it's been a seven-year journey to try to get that done but I understand from once we came from. We have conservative type of government here. There's not enough money to go around for something as important as the safety or the well-being of a park. So I would like to change that.

I am so glad that you mentioned your infrastructure and funding. It's not only your Division. Its two parking garages, other places. We are starting to take a look at that and wisely we should because to me, the true waste is not in the

tax dollars. The true waste is letting some of our infrastructure rot away to the point to replace it would be just too much money. It's terrible. So a penny spent is wise to do when it's appropriate.

And then finally, I wish you and your Division luck. I understand spinning around in the mid-Atlantic is a hurricane. You'd mentioned your go to, trees downed.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

They're going to be busy this weekend.

Alderman O'Brien

Yeah so let me make my public service announcement. Tree goes down, watch out for wires. You know there's no reason for the citizens to light up like a light bulb because I guarantee you will. Call the proper authorities. Start off with Fire Rescue, and PD, and get it there, and they'll make the call into your emergency line to get a response out there to open up the road. So again, very complimentary to your Division. Well done. Thank you.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

Thank you Alderman O'Brien and thank you for your support in the St. Andrews Playground. I appreciate it. We got that through the escrow process last year and I appreciate your support. Couldn't have done it without you. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Alderman Klee.

Alderman Klee

Thank you Madam President and thank you Superintendent. First, I want to thank you and I want to thank Director Fauteux for putting Ashley into her new position at Greeley Park. She is...

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

She's awesome.

Alderman Klee

She is wonderful. She's a godsend and she loves what she does. I don't know her personally. I only know her because she works at Greeley and I get to see her more often. The event that I had there, she was just wonderful. Very even-tempered, was right on so I just want to thank you for that.

The other thing is I want to remind everybody that I think it's tomorrow that the Atherton Park ribbon cutting is it 12:30 is going to happen?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

We're actually going to postpone because of the weather.

Alderman Klee

That's what I was going to ask you if it was going to be postponed and a date determined or do we have a new date?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

No not yet.

Alderman Klee

Okay. The other thing is that I also like to thank you for your help with the I'll call it the backside of the Manchester Street side of Greeley Park helping us with the Engineering Department of Public Works as well to make that road so

it went down the fire road and not right through the middle of the park. Less trees were removed and people - it's hard enough to see all those trees gone but to see that many more trees so I really do want to thank you so much. My constituents in that area do appreciate every extra tree that we get to have there.

The other thing if I may Madam President. I did want to bring up you talked about doing the inner city of plowing and so on. French Hill is part of that inner city that you – and you also do the sidewalks - the clearing of the sidewalks?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

No. That's the Street Department.

Alderman Klee

So the Street Department does do the sidewalks. So I'd like to thank them. I know it's a rough job because they can't get those sidewalk plows in there but you do the plowing of the streets.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

We do.

Alderman Klee

It makes it very difficult if people aren't moving their cars because the streets being so narrow.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

It is hard in the inner city yes. There's a lot of cars that don't move and we're constantly on a daily basis I tell him all the time after lunch, let's go. Just circle around, circle around because you know it depends on the weather too. If we're gonna get a real cold night and everything's gonna freeze, we're really trying to be on top of it to push the snow back if we can but it's hard like you say because people don't move their cars.

Alderman Klee

And I just also want to remind everybody the reason why you do it is because you have the smaller plows.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

Yes.

Alderman Klee

Versus the Street Department who has the much larger plows. Thank you and thank you for everything thing you do. We will wait to hear about when the new ribbon cutting is. Thank you.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

Thank you Alderman Klee.

President Wilshire

Alderman Lopez.

Alderman Lopez

Just to clarify. I wasn't sure. Does the Streets Department clear the rail trail or is that you guys?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

No the Street Department clears the rail trail as well.

Alderman Lopez

Okay because there was a sidewalk plow that was doing that but you guys do maintain the rail trail. You've been doing a really great job of it. There is a tree over by Chestnut Street that I keep running into. So I've been trying to take little pieces off my face but. Generally, we appreciate all the work you're doing in Mine Falls and the park on the corner of Central Street as well. I would just like to take this opportunity to clarify that well, in your opinion, that park has a big circular area that is commonly confused with oh it's going to be splash pad but clearly hasn't been become a splash pad. It's graduated for some reason. Can you speak briefly to the challenges to that?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

The Park Social. You know I'm almost positive with splash pads you need a designated restroom. So I think that's the first thing that comes to mind is how do we get the funding for that need because it's a lot of infrastructure to accomplish that. I don't know if that's the right location for that either. If you're gonna put me on the spot and asked me if I think that should be a splash pad, I would say no. So I think it's underutilized space. I'd rather see it as a basketball court. I think that would be more utilized but that's just me.

Alderman Lopez

Yeah like I said, there's a lot of confusion in the public over what we were trying to do there. Looks like it could definitely benefit from some redesign at some point. I know it came up in Your Choice/Your Voice but Reverend Perkins Los Amigos Park was the one that basically the community decided what we were going to focus on. I wanted to clarify for the public because Ward 4 doesn't really have a swimming pool or anything like that. So they look pretty longingly on it on hot days but as you said, I believe you need a bathroom there. I'm not sure that footprint was big enough because it also has to be handicapped accessible bathroom and its space isn't unlimited in size. I just wanted to comment on it because it comes up pretty often.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

You bring up some great points. Thank you.

Alderman Lopez

Thank you.

President Wilshire

Alderman Caron.

Alderman Caron

Yes, thank you. You knew I wasn't gonna let this go but I really want to take the time to thank you and also Director Fauteux when you took the time to meet with myself and Alderman Thibeault when we had some concerns of some of the facilities that didn't seem to be maintained as well as you thought that they should be. So I appreciate that you took the time and that you've taken the time to do this presentation. Back when I was working, we didn't have such a thing. So I think this is great and I have looked at St. Andrews. God bless that Alderman O'Brien really pushed for that because that was one of the facilities that we were trying to get repaired. Atherton Ave. looks great. I was so pleased when I took a ride over there.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

Thank you.

Alderman Caron

But one of my questions is Greeley Park. I know we did some maintenance putting in the new playground but I know the wading pool hasn't been looked at for a while. Have you been looking at that and as to what you're looking for in the future?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

I have. I've compiled a list at Greeley Park too – band shell improvements, replacing the wading pool. I got the quote a year ago. It was \$125,000 so don't quote me on that now. It might be \$135,000. I've gotten numbers to replace the

fencing. The split rail fencing that goes along the back by the soccer fields that's broken in sections, the fencing around the tennis courts and the horseshoe pits, the softball fields. We've looked at the Stone House. We are preparing to put out a bid proposal to upgrade the Stone House which I think is desperately needed as well. But you are right Alderman Caron, Greeley Park needs some funding.

Alderman Caron

Okay. I think it's very important and I'll reiterate what Aldermen O'Brien said. If we let our infrastructure go, it takes a lot more money to repair it than to keep up with facilities that you have and I know we have a lot of them. I will say this that we probably have had the same 18 people working for Park Rec for a long time. So we have never really expanded even though we've expanded our facilities - Stellos Stadium, Roby Park, all of those facilities add work to the staff.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

Yeah they do.

Alderman Caron

So I have nothing but good things. I have Parks and Rec is my heart and soul so I'll always be there to champion for whatever you need even though I won't be sitting in this chamber next year. I'll be there if you need it. Thank you.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

Thank you.

President Wilshire

Alderman Comeau.

Alderman Comeau

Yes thank you Madam President. I just wanted to reiterate a lot of the positive comments that most of my colleagues have said tonight. I think you guys do a great job. I also want to thank you for coming here and giving us this presentation tonight. I think it's easy for especially people in the general public that don't get all the details to think that you're very small scope. Most people don't think about 90% of the rest of the stuff that you guys do throughout the day. I think you do an amazing job. I just wanted to thank you for that.

I also will reiterate the comments about infrastructure. We saw earlier this year how expensive it can be to do a system wide replacement at a facility. I have a personal bias towards Labine Field myself and that system has been amazing all year long. You guys did a great job there. Someone who played on it all summer long, I can tell you that no pun intended is night and day big difference. The way it was for the past decade that I've been playing there as opposed to the way it was this year blew me away beyond what I expected we were going to get when we first started talking about it as a possibility. It's an absolutely amazing park and I'm happy that it's going to be an asset for you guys for a really, really long time. It's going to be probably one of the most sought-after facilities, rec sport facilities in the City. So thank you for all you do and thank you for coming out tonight and giving us this presentation.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

Thank you for your support.

President Wilshire

Alderman Thibeault.

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you, Madam President. Yeah I mean I wish you could list out like all of the stuff that you have to fix in the City and how much it costs and we could put that out to our constituents so they could actually see like well it would cost a lot of money because, you know, we have a thing here and a thing there but the amount of stuff you guys have to fix or have to keep maintained is incredible.

Oh by the way, I got my second rake. Not that I can rake for a few months but I got a second rake at North Commons. So thank you for that. I appreciate it.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

You're welcome.

Alderman Thibeault

My question is so the last couple of years - so last year we fixed Labine thanks to Alderman Comeau and this year he's also put in something for the tennis courts that were most likely (inaudible).

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

That would be great at Sargent Ave. That would be fantastic.

Alderman Thibeault

So my question on that is the last two years lights have come in at the end. Is there a way we can have a skip maybe get it into a budget where we do want every year that needs it and have some kind of schedule so that way instead of trying to figure out how we're going to pay for it whether it's escrow, whether it's a trust fund, we can get it in the budget or?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

Great idea.

Alderman Thibeault

Because that'd be great to start to change all the parks to LED. I don't know how many we have that have lights that need LED fixes or?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

I would start with the lights at Mine Falls. I've given Alderman Comeau a list but the lights at Mine Falls, the football lights on Artillery Lane come to mind.

Alderman Thibeault

Is it too much to put it in the budget and that's what we're trying to figure out a way to get it outside?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation

I think it is. I mean the lights at Labine cost \$275,000 Alderman so I don't know it's a big - and depending on what we're going to do to replace the lights at Holman Stadium is \$825,000. So I think it depends on what we're talking about the location. So but yes I would love that funding. It's needed.

Alderman Thibeault

Thanks. Appreciate that.

President Wilshire

All set? Thank you, Superintendent. Appreciate you coming here and learning what you do every day. Keep it up. You're doing a great job.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent, Parks and Recreation

Thank you very much for having me here tonight.

President Wilshire

Alderman O'Brien.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN THAT THE SEPTEMBER 13, 2023, SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN BE ADJOURNED

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was declared adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Attest: Daniel Healey, City Clerk