

# COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES

*TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.*  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS – OLEAN MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

IN ATTENDANCE WERE: ALDERMEN CRAWFORD, WITTE, PANUS, GONZALEZ, ROBINSON, AND ANASTASIA. OTHERS: MAYOR WILLIAM AIELLO; LENS MARTIAL, CITY CLERK; KRIS SHEWAIRY, YOUTH AND RECREATION DIRECTOR, AND TIFFANY TAYLOR, MANAGERIAL CONFIDENTIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY.

Alderman Crawford called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and asked that the record show that all Aldermen were present except Alderman Barnard, who was excused.

## 1. Presentation – Twin Tier Disc Golf Club – youth course at Franchot Park

Mr. Shewairy explained that the disc golf at Gargoyle Park has taken off, and it has been a pleasure to work with this organization. He explained that they have met what they said they would, and even more than that. The first proposal was brought to us on November 17, 2020, so in less than one year the course is complete and all 26 tee pad boxes have been completed. He explained that there is only some minor landscaping left to do. He explained that the first tournament was held in early October, which consisted of 75 to 80 players with some from as far away as Ohio. He explained that he sees this continuing to grow. There is very little maintenance or upkeep in terms of the Department of Public Works. This has been nothing but a positive thing. He explained that Gargoyle Park needed new purpose and this gives it exactly that.

Richard Longer, the president of the Twin Tier Disc Golf Club, explained that the course is being used and that you can always see families there. He explained that this has been a great thing for the public. He explained that there were 4 to 5 youth clinics, and although only a small portion of the participants had heard about disc golf before, most of them would play again. He explained that this proposed youth course would cater to younger kids under the age of 10 with a 100 foot throwing distance. He explained that this would help us to cater to a wider demographic.

David Haynes explained that the Franchot Park idea was his. He explained that they had been talking about a suitable spot. He explained that he has lived and worked in the area for 25 years. He explained that there was recently an article in the Olean Times Herald about enhancing Franchot Park, and after looking at it, they feel it would be the perfect location. He explained that the park already has a lot going on for the youth. He explained that the biggest concern was that on the west side the park is a lot more open, and for disc golf to be more fun, you really need trees. He explained that with this in mind, there is a memorial garden, and the idea came about to build on that and put in about six trees for the three homes on the west side of the park. He explained that this would help to enhance the park without detracting from anything. He explained that they

are trying to get six parents of kids who have passed away to donate trees, and a plaque will be placed near the tree in their memory. He explained that they are looking to keep maintenance simple for the City's parks department. He explained that they will do this if they have the Council's blessing.

Alderman Witte explained that she can attest to how much fun this is. She explained that so many people are trying it now that have never played before, and they love it. She explained that she wants to encourage the Club to keep going and let the Council know if they will be doing a fundraiser. Mr. Longer explained that if they do have the Council's blessing to move forward that they would look at a grant to possibly move forward.

Alderman Panus explained that this is good for the City and is a little niche to enjoy life more. Mr. Haynes explained that they thought that the centrality of the location would work well. Alderman Crawford agreed. He explained that he had seen people tossing Frisbees and hitting trees three or so years ago when he was working to repaint the Gargoyle Park pavilion with Bona Responds. He explained that he had presented the idea to the Council but that nothing moved forward because the idea didn't have doers. He explained that this group has put blood, sweat and tears into this, and they have done a great job. They have gotten a lot done since presenting a year ago. He thanked the group for helping to reactivate Gargoyle Park. He explained that as a representative and a taxpayer, one thing he wants to see if our tax money goes into taking care of a park is for that park to get used. He explained that Gargoyle is great for leagues, clubs, and older players. He explained that Franchot would be great for families to walk over with their kids. He asked what the Club needs from the City.

Mr. Longer explained that the City previously committed \$4,500 to the project at Gargoyle Park. Alderman Crawford explained that he would be on board for having some sort of similar agreement in place for Franchot. Mr. Longer explained that it would be must less expensive than Gargoyle, and that he would estimate the total budget would be around \$6,000. Alderman Crawford explained that he thinks that the Council would support a 50/50 match again.

Alderman Crawford asked if Mr. Ring has any concerns, and Mr. Ring explained that he does not and that this definitely fits in with the master plan at the park. He explained that we do have to get the entrance done, but this is a great idea. Alderman Witte asked if the \$6,000 includes the cost for trees, and Mr. Longer explained that it does not and that the plan is to fund those through parent's donations. Alderman Crawford explained that this is a really touching, great idea. HE explained that this is an awesome idea and a great concept and that the group should let the Council know what they need. He explained that he thinks that there will be a lot of momentum moving forward.

## 2. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Crawford, seconded by Alderman Witte. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:20 p.m.