The Hackettstown Recreation Commission convened Via Teleconference in open session 7:45 PM on April 27, 2020. Chairperson Robert Salus announced that adequate notice of the time, place, and manner of this remote public Recreation Meeting, being conducted via teleconference including the means by which the public may observe and participate, has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by:

1. Posting said notice on the Municipal Building bulletin board and front window of the Municipal Building;
2. E-mailing said notice to the press and all others who have requested it;
3. Posting on the official Town website;
4. Transmission to residents via nixel notification.

Roll Call: Present – Chairperson Robert Salus (4095), Vice Chairperson John Mandick (5641), Bill Baker (0504), Brian Feeney (2748), Frank Galka (1831), Jim Macaulay (7440), Jim Pangallo, Director Joe Yapaola and Councilperson Matt Engelau (0842)

Jim Pangallo made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2020 meeting; John Mandick seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

Jim Macaulay Abstained

Brian Feeney made a motion to approve the bills as submitted; Bill Baker seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

John Mandick Abstained.

Kurt Ruppell inquired about the fields being shut down for the summer if a date is not specified to lift the safety precautions for use of the fields and if the Commission has a plan of action if fields do not open.

Director Joe Yapaola reported that the 2020 Recreation Softball season has been canceled, baseball and track are still scheduled as planned pending precautions being lifted and the Men’s Softball League season is pending at this time.

Joe reported that the dugouts, fencing and lighting projects have been completed at Tannery Field. The netting still needs to be installed and a few other projects need to be complete, but the Tannery Field project is approximately 90% complete at this time.

Joe reported that the Tom Kitchen Softball Tournament and the Knights of Columbus Softball Tournament are still scheduled to be held, pending the State and/or Local mandates, the World Vision 5K scheduled for May 2, 2020 has been rescheduled for September 26, 2020 and the Ginger Gormley 5K and the NJ Civic Ballet 5K are both postponed until further notice due to the current pandemic.

Joe informed the Commission that the following facilities are closed until further notice: Community Center, Senior Center, Riverfront Park, Sandbar/Alumni Area, Legion Field, Pool Field Complex, Morgan Field and all playgrounds (Legion, Miller St. and Pool).

Joe reported that in addition to the Tannery project, the following projects will also be performed: Re-side the back of the Riverfront Park maintenance building, re-side the red shed at the Legion, remove the split rail fencing at Riverfront Park and replace with rubber parking blocks, repair and resurface the basketball courts, install an underground water supply to the handicap lift at the Pool, repair sections of concrete decking around the pool and continue to maintain all properties (mowing, mulching, grooming fields, etc.).

Joe informed the Commission that the pergola that was donated by Amish Mike has been delivered to the pool.

Discussion was held regarding if and how to proceed with opening for the 2020 pool season due to the COVID-19 restrictions. The Commission agreed to table the conversation and any final decision on how to proceed until the May May 18, 2020 Recreation meeting.

Carol Hammell, 806 East Prospect Street, inquired about installing wheelchair accessibility from the parking lot into the pool building.

John Mandick made a motion to adjourn this teleconference meeting at 8:15 PM; Jim Pangallo seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Matusewicz

Secretary