The Hackettstown Recreation Commission convened Via Teleconference in open session 7:45 PM on May 18, 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, Bill Baker (0504), Brian Feeney (2748), Frank Galka (1831), Jim Macaulay (7440), Jim Pangallo, Director Joe Yapaola and Councilperson Matt Engelau (0894)

Jim Pangallo made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2020 meeting; John Mandick seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

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

All were in favor.

John Mandick made a motion to approve the following bills: NAPA for steering stabilizing kit in the amount of $39.32, Code Green for fertilizer and weed control at the pool in the amount of $2,715.00, Noah’s Ark for port-a-johns in the amount of $82.00, JCP&L for pool service in the amount of $2,027.27, JCP&L for Warren Street Ballpark service in the amount of $356.71 and Comcast for pool wifi in the amount of $149.24; Jim Pangallo seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

Director, Joe Yapaola, reported that Colonial Baseball and Spring Track Program have officially been cancelled for the season and the Men’s Softball League is still waiting for the State guidelines to be set before making a decision to proceed with their season.

Joe reported the status of the Tannery Field project.

Joe reported that the Tom Kitchen Softball Tournament has been rescheduled to August 7 &8, 2020 and the Knights of Columbus Softball Tournament reschedule date has not yet been set.

Joe reported that due to COVID-19, the following facilities still remain closed until further notice: Community Center, Senior Center, Legion Field, Pool Field, Pool Complex and all playgrounds. As of May 2, 2020 walking trails at Alumni Field will open with restrictions.

Joe reported that fields will still be groomed twice a week.

Brian Feeney made a motion to hire two summer employees effective June 1, 2020 at a rate of $11.00 per hour for each employee; Jim Pangallo seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

Jim Macaulay abstained.

Discussion was held regarding opening the Pool for the 2020 season amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mike McCaffery spoke regarding the pool snack bar being a separate entity from the pool and regarding the fields opening for sports.

Francis Morales, 100 Oak Street, spoke regarding opening the pool for residents only and her concerns about having a membership and not being able to use the pool in the past because it was at full capacity.

Michelle WheyMeyer, 125 College View Drive, spoke regarding her concern with opening the pool and people coming from areas with a high rate of COVID-19 infection being around the Hackettstown school grounds.

Shelly Stebbins, 116 Water Street, spoke regarding the possibility of opening the pool using a two hour window per person and allowing smaller groups of people. Ms. Stebbins also inquired if a decision to open could wait until the State comes out with the guidelines.

Councilperson Matt Engelau spoke to the financial aspect of opening the pool during the pandemic.

Jim Macaulay made a motion to not open the Pool for the 2020 season; John Mandick seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

John Mandick made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 8:31 PM; Bill Baker seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Matusewicz

Secretary