

A workshop of the Town Board of the Town of Moreau was held on April 10, 2018 in the Town of Moreau Municipal Building, 351 Reynolds Road, Moreau, New York for the purpose of discussion on Recreation Field Usage.

The Supervisor called the workshop to order at 6:33 p.m.

The Town Clerk called the roll.

Town Board Members Present

John Hogan	Councilman
Alan VanTassel	Councilman
Gina LeClair	Councilwoman
Kyle Noonan	Councilman
Theodore T. Kusnierz	Supervisor

Town Board Members Absent

None

Also present: Leeann McCabe, Town Clerk; Sandy Mahoney, Recreation Program Director; Reed Antis, Planning Board Member and Town Resident; David & Elaine Kramer

The Supervisor welcomed those in attendance and stated that there have been questions raised about the Field Usage Policy.

Councilman Hogan explained how the point system for priorities of the fields may prohibit local teams from hosting tournaments.

Councilman VanTassel stated that the rules were developed by taking into account the wishes of the previous Town Board and from those who wanted to use the fields.

Councilman Hogan explained how dates are chosen in the fall with no rosters. He suggested that changes be made for next spring. He stated that there should be a date that paperwork has to be turned in by and following approval a deposit should be submitted.

Councilman VanTassel stated that the point system created was only for the pecking order and not to determine fees. He commented that there are more people who want to host tournaments than there are fields. He also commented that no one person should ever get more than one weekend. He stated that if someone had already been assigned more than one field, that schedule can't be changed.

Sandy Mahoney had a schedule book of tournaments that had been kept by the former Recreation Dept. employee. She stated that some of the entities had more than one weekend scheduled.

Councilman VanTassel stated that he was open to suggestions regarding the scoring but didn't see a problem with it.

There was discussion of fees being increased, to cover the Town's expenses to provide the services for tournaments. Along with that, Councilman Hogan suggested that there be a non-refundable deposit required in order to hold the fields and then thirty days out, the rosters should be provided so that the fees per game can be determined.

Councilman VanTassel agreed with the 30 day cushion because the Town needs to know how they will be staffing the events. He also stated that the fees were established after much research was done to determine the costs of the Town. He also stated that many other communities use these events as a revenue stream. Our Town Boards haven't wanted this to be a revenue stream but rather a break even. He was of the opinion that it should be a revenue stream and that the prices should go up, so that more money could be put back into the Park.

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Councilman Hogan was asked when he wanted to change the rates. He stated that he would like to do it at the next regular Town Board meeting. He was asked if the rates would be implemented for this season and the answer was not for this season but for next. He thought that by September 1st, those entities who schedule fields will know what the fees will be.

Councilman VanTassel was also of the opinion that they could implement some of the changes for next year but didn't think that new fees should be published until it gets closer to the season.

It was asked when the teams start promoting for the following year. Councilman Hogan replied that they start promoting by Memorial Day.

Councilman Noonan stated that they should be able to see what the other communities are charging.

Councilman Hogan asked about some of the verbiage on one of the forms. It states that no fees may be charged to any spectators of any events held at the Park. It was mentioned that the State charges an entry fee for the NYS Girls Softball Tournament.

The Supervisor commented that they had covered many issues in a short period of time.

Councilwoman LeClair stated that with the point system 1 child could be 10% and that would give them 5 points. She stated that it didn't make sense and that possibly it could be changed to 1 point per child residing in the Town.

The workshop concluded at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leeann McCabe
Town Clerk