

Maxwell Parks and Open Spaces Board
Held a meeting
Thursday, January 15, 2026, at 5:00p.m.
At City Hall, 107 Main Street, Maxwell, Iowa

Note: The following are unofficial until they are approved by the board at the next meeting.

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:03p.m. by Chair, Jody Gast.
2. Roll call was answered by Jody Gast, Deb Steele, and Derek Carter. Ex Officio attendee Sue Philpott
3. Steele moved to approve the agenda, Carter seconded. 3 ayes
4. There were not enough members present to approve August 6th, 2025 minutes. Approval will be on the next Parks and Open Spaces agenda.
5. Open Forum: Philpott welcomed new member Carter to the Parks Board.
6. Review of 2025 projects: Scout Park firepits are installed and available for use, bathrooms doors at Legion Park were painted, 29 Trees were planted, updated dog silhouettes at the dog park, grand opening of the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail, restroom signs installed along the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail.

New or Other Business:

7. Acceptance of Casady Myers resignation from the Parks and Open Spaces board.
8. Steele moved, Carter seconded 3 ayes to approve Lance Krueger's request to purchase a memorial bench to be placed in Maxwell. A recommendation will be made at the next meeting for suggestions on where to purchase it from and of locations to place the bench.
9. Possible 2026 projects include:
Legion Park - Appling for the Paint Iowa Beautiful Grant to paint the Legion Park concession stand

City Park – acquire more sand for the toy digger, find flooring for the gaga ball pit and work on drainage solutions, freshen up the welcome sign, replace three boards on the bridge, discussion of improvements for disk golf courses

Dog Park - research grants to purchase new dog park equipment and agility courses, volunteer opportunities to help with purchasing new dog silhouettes, research fencing companies and see about grants to change the entrance at the dog park

Scout Park - remove lilac trees from the west side of Scout Park to help make an unobstructed view from Woodlawn Street, research cost for installing poles for hammocks, discussion of having wood on site for the firepit

Prairie land – possibility of moving the prairie sign and getting a wet prairie mix to use on the west side of the prairie

Veterans Plaza – completion of flag burning pit this spring

Laffey Park – acquire pea gravel

Apply for the REAP grant, research the living trust fund for grants to purchase flowers, replace four trees that were removed last year, research adding fruit trees and wildflowers along the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail

10. Steele moved, Gast seconded to recommend security cameras at Veterans Plaza, outside entrances of the city park bathrooms, bandstand, and Scout Park. Steele, Gast aye, Carter nay
11. 6:51 Derek moved, Deb 2nd to adjourn. 3 ayes

Attest: _____, Clerk _____, Chair
Carrie Heaps Joelyn L. Gast