



Thelen Park Update

July 2005

- Thelen Sand and Gravel agrees to donate property at the corner of Main Street and Winn Road to the Village for the building of a park.

2006 - 2007

- Deed transfer is held up in negotiations.

July 27, 2007

- The Village acquires the Thelen Park property when the deed is recorded.

Summer 2007

- Planning and engineering of the park begins with input from football, soccer and baseball associations.
- Estimates to build a new sports park come in at \$837,000.

August 2007

- Village applies for a \$400,000 state funded OSLAD grant to help with park development.

Fall 2007

- Each Parks Committee Member is assigned a project and researches various products, structures and costs for planning and budgeting.

Fall 2007 – Spring 2008

- Engineering complicated by the following issues:
 1. small drainage swale that runs through property creating issues with the IDNR and McHenry County
 2. wetland issues complicating grading plan
 3. wetland issues requiring field size adjustments
 4. re-sizing of detention areas to accommodate park design
 5. line of site issues accessing the property off Winn Road
 6. septic issues with McHenry County Health Department

October 2007

- OSLAD grant recipients notified - Village does not receive any grant money.
- Engineering shows 20,000 yards (4,000 5-yard truckloads) of fill required to construct the park.

November 2007

- Parks Committee priority is to get the baseball and soccer/football fields graded and seeded for use in 2009.
- Committee discusses preliminary budgeting and finding funding **without raising taxes.**
- Donor of fill is found; transporting the fill and cost to move it is considered.
- Many requests come in to add a skate park to the plans.

January 2008

- A few teenaged Spring Grove residents attend the Parks Committee asking that a skate park be built at the park and volunteering to help with design. Parks Committee agrees that a skate park should be considered.

February 2008

- Parks Committee discusses having community organizations help with park costs by volunteering to help with different parks projects.
- RBBA and Comets Football volunteer to build and fund dug-outs and press box.
- Committee expresses frustration with delays caused by engineering issues.



March 2008

- Septic plans are finalized with the County Health Dept. based on the removal of the Community Center until sewers are provided at the property.
- Final costs exceeding \$500,000 cover:
 - Rough & final grading
 - Seeding
 - Storm sewer
 - Roadway
 - Parking lots
 - Curbs
- Final costs do not include:
 - Equipment for fields
 - Skate park
 - Concession stand
 - Lighting
 - Well
 - Septic field
 - Utilities

May 2008

- Village sends out letter to local businesses and organizations seeking donations of cash and labor
- Driveway into park and concession stand is staked out
- Silt fence is installed
- 1,500 load of dirt starts to be delivered
- Well to be installed soon
- Planting of grass seed still on track for this fall

July 2008

- Mass grading is completed
- Storm sewer piping in installed
- Concession building is staked
- ComEd transformer pad is installed
- Entrance road and parking lot subgrade is installed

August 2008

- Water lines for the files were run to the pitcher mounds for watering the fields
- Underground utilities in the process of being located
- Bids for fencing being reviewed
- Lighting fixtures picked out and pylons for the fixtures being installed
- Design for the concession stand submitted

September 2008

- Stone is laid for the walking path
- Fields are seeded
- Fencing is almost complete
- Electrical and waterlines are run to the announcer's stand at the football field
- Underground conduit run to streetlight, parking lot and future stubs
- Parking lot is ready for asphalt
- Skate Park site has been determined and the concrete will be poured in the spring
- Foundation for the concession stand poured