

MAA seeks \$20,000 for fields

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middletown

The township supervisors Monday night held off on a request by the Middletown Athletic Association for an additional \$20,000 for improvements at Twin Oaks Park at Trenton and Woodbourne roads.

There is \$10,000 in this year's township budget for improvements at the park, but Monday night MAA treasurer Robert Butts requested another \$20,000 for more and improved fencing, infield mix and repairs to batting cages and other items.

The request for more money was tabled until a meeting later this month or next. Board members were reluctant to just give MAA the additional money because, among other reasons, it might not be fair to other athletic organizations in the township.

Supervisor Patrick Mallon suggested that maybe the township could lend MAA the money and be paid back over the next five years.

Butts said he would bring that suggestion up at an MAA meeting and also discuss with other officials from the athletic organization how it might modify its request from the township.

"This isn't something that was budgeted," said Supervisor Robert McMonagle. "I think we need to come up with an alternative."

Middletown Athletic Association is hosting the 15 Babe Ruth Baseball state tournament in late July. The games will be held at Twin Oaks and also a field at Bucks County's Queen Anne Park on Woodbourne Road, said Butts. About 10 teams from all over the state, including a team from MAA, will participate, he added.

"But this money is not just for the tournament but to benefit all the fields at Twin Oaks," Butts said.

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