

MONTHLY MEETING November 18th 2024 - 5:30PM

Board Members: Seim, Fietek, Irvine, Stromberg, Freeman

Present : Seim, Fietek, Praska, Stromberg, Irvine, Freeman

Community Guests: Duane Berg, Bruce Heggen, Nina Hollingsworth, Waylon Lietz, Cory Seim, Nancy Thompson, Alli Olimb

Absent: NA

Meet Called to Order by: Ashley Seim

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes and Financials: 1- J. Stromberg 2- J. Fietek

OLD BUSINESS

Community Building Committee Update

No major updates. Josh messaged the committee to ask about meeting again as he was contacted by Foss Architectures to get an update of our progress and keep the project moving along.

Misty responded saying she would like to meet as a group to discuss progress and roadblocks. She thinks it may be time zero in on needs vs wants because of the lack of community interest/inability to raise funds. She personally feels the need to scale back on the size or amenities within. While this would reduce the pool of potential donors, it could also significantly lower the cost of the project as a whole.

Splash Pad Equipment Building

Equipment building is finished, Misty received keys to the building doors from Ashley on 11/12/24.

Misty contacted Steve to let him know the building is finished, He said he will be up the week of the 18th or the following week to get the equipment hooked up.

\$23,662.20 will be due once equipment hookup is complete.

\$7,887.40 will be due once the project is complete (once it is up and running in the spring)

Misty will submit reimbursement for M4 contracting, Leon's Building Center and My Aquatics Services invoices for a total of \$9,732.82 - reimbursement amount: \$4,866.41

Sale of Park Land

Joe provided copies of the correspondence between Mayor Dan and Dustin Slaamod per open records laws. Joe wanted this brought up because his name was mentioned in a negative light within the letter and that what is stated in the letter is an opinion and not fact. He says he is willing to work with entities regarding the park land but his stance for the sale of park land does not change based on other options for the parking lot not being vetted. He states the proposed parking lot plan does not fix the parking issue.

Josh states he is aware of the need for parking at the hospital. He states his initial vote of “no” was a soft “no” as he understands the reasoning behind the location and need for the parking lot/sale of the land, however as the sitting Vice President of the board, he needs to vote in favor of preserving parks and recreations. He states he is fully on board with working with all entities regardless of what comes about with the land.

Dante also states he is okay with whatever the outcome regarding the sale of the park land. He states his main issue with the events that took place was the tone directed toward him and the park district. He feels it could have been handled in a much better way but will not have any ill feelings with whatever comes about with the land.

Ashley sees a way forward with all parties, and will work with all entities regarding the park land. She states the finger pointing has gone on too long and she is ready to move forward in a positive direction.

Overview: the recommendation by the park district stands however the park board will work with all entities regarding the sale of the land.

Snow Removal on Outdoor Skating Rink

Ashely talked with Bigfoot Lawn Care - she stated their rates at \$75/hr. She did not know if it's \$75/hr regardless of the time it takes to do the work. She can get clarification if needed. Joe said that it may be easier to get a flat rate to simplify the process.

Misty talked with Andrew Lindell about his interest in doing the snow removal - he said in the past he donated this time and equipment. Misty said this would be a paid position. He said he would talk with Jesse to see if he could help him and get back to me.

Cory Seim mentioned Elias Markusen does snow removal. Misty will reach out to see what he charges.

Pool

Misty provided financial data from the years 2016-2024 in relation to the pool to board members to review prior to the meeting. With the unknowns regarding the system at the current pool, the future of the pool seems risky.

Josh said it may be worth having a company come and look into the current system and to explore options to get the pool working.

Ashley agrees that it might be fixable but doesn't think it's worth it to put any more money into it.

Joseph states he thinks a decision one way or another needs to be made this winter so that we can move forward with something.

Misty thinks a new outdoor pool is a better option given the current pool's location and problems. Grants and other funding options can be pursued with this option.

The conversation will continue next month.

Lease Agreements on Land

Joe gave the group lease and joint powers agreements with specific wording for the park district. Both agreement terms are 5 years. Within the joint powers agreement, it states what areas the park district will maintain and what areas the city will maintain.

Josh said he thinks it should be looked over by legal counsel to ensure all statements and aspects of the documents are as they should be.

Lease and Joint Powers Agreements will need to be provided to the 'contracts and policies' committee from city council.

New Business

Bookkeeping For Park District

Joe requested approval from the city council for the city to take over the book keeping for the park district starting Jan 1 2025. Misty asked about specific duties that this will take care of. Nancy Thompson explained that Amanda will be responsible for accounting, bills, and other tasks associated with bookkeeping.

Misty asked if the city will be charging for this service and Nancy stated that it will be run similarly to the other city entities they track.

Misty will work with Nancy, Ann and Amanda to transition.

Line of Credit/Operational Loan

Misty included this topic to the agenda as the park district account is in the red with a total as of 11/12/24 of \$29,529.49. She said that with the incoming expenses, she thinks we will need to borrow around \$65,000 to get us through to 2025. She explained the lack of the tax income at the end of the year with the addition of unexpected additional expenses with the splash pad has led to the deficit. Joe asked how these expenses weren't factored into the initial plan and it was explained that the original grant application factored in approx. \$77,000 from the legacy fund to be used to offset expenses for the pool/splash pad. Misty was told by the former legacy fund president, Jon Markusen, that there was never any funds allocated for the pool/splash pad project in the legacy fund.

Cory Seim stated the park district may be able to go to the city council and request funds from the city to be used to get us through until our sales tax funds begin. The money borrowed from the city would then be paid back by the park district.

Misty asked what we should do in the meantime prior to the city council meeting as she has bills that need to get paid now. It was suggested to get a loan at First United Bank for \$45,000 to cover the deficit in the account and the bills for October. This loan would then be immediately paid off with funds from the city. Misty will go to the bank and get the loan process started for \$45,000.

Motion to Approve bank loan of \$45,000 to cover October bills and \$29,529.49 deficit in account
1. J. Fietek 2. D. Irvine

Financials

Motion to Approve Bills 1. J. Fietek 2. J. Stromberg

OPEN DISCUSSION - NA