

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
August 7, 2007

AGENDA

ROLL CALL

The Board of Park Commissioners met for their regular meeting on Tuesday, August 7, 2007, at 5:00 p.m. in the Park District Board meeting room. Present were Commissioners Bollman, LaDouceur, Hutchison, Panzer and Jeske.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JULY 10 AND 27, 2007

A motion was made by Commissioner Jeske to approve the minutes from the July 10 & 27 Board meetings. Seconded by Commissioner LaDouceur; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA

John Staley requested the agenda item "Park Lease" be moved to Item C under "For Discussion."

DELEGATES TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD

None.

FOR DISCUSSION

SOUTHERN ESTATES PARKING LOT

Mike Korman of CPS, Ltd. addressed the Board regarding the Southern Estates parking lot. Two estimated cost projections were presented: one for a 50 stall parking lot and one for a 72 stall parking lot, both in gravel with curb and gutter, but no lighting at \$79,430.00 and \$98,410.00 respectively.

The Board agreed it would be nice to have the larger parking lot, but could add on later, also.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hutchison to bid the project on the 72 stall lot. Seconded by Commissioner LaDouceur; motion carried.

OPTIONS FOR BIKE TRAIL

This stretch of bike trail in the Lion's Park area is 20 years old. Currently, it is asphalt, but CPS, Ltd. is suggesting repairing it using concrete.

Mark Walker of the City Engineering Department suggested there are some funds for bike path maintenance and July/August is the best time to make the repairs. Cost is projected at between \$130,000.00 and \$160,000.00. The project could be done in phases and it was suggested the level of the bike path be raised so spring flooding of the coulee doesn't flood the path.

PARK LEASE

This latest draft of the lease for Riverside Park is dated August 7, 2007. This temporary lease goes to Council Committee of the Whole and Council next week. It is a lease that automatically will renew each year.

Commissioner Bollman inquired when the park will be ready to satisfy the Park District. He wants it complete before the Park District gets involved with the park.

Mark Walker stated it will be ready in mid- to late August with removing the old road and some drainage work left to do. He stated the agreement doesn't need to be signed before the park opens. As soon as the contractors are done, the City will take over the park.

Most of the Commissioners want it open as soon as possible and Mark Walker stated the City wants that, also.

John Staley stated he would like to see an August 27 opening date for the park.

Mark Walker asked the Board for a favorable agreement with the Park District on the lease so he can take it to Council.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hutchison to give preliminary approval of the lease. Seconded by Commissioner LaDouceur; motion carried with Commissioner Bollman dissenting.

PERSONNEL SYSTEM

Galen Cariveau addressed the Commissioners and explained the merit raise system, which is based on the quality of your job the previous year.

The Board decides the cost of living increase, and then the evaluations of each employee dictate the merit points. It takes about three years for this system to gel once it is put in place.

Galen stated 2.5% is about where the cost of living is at.

OPERATIONS BUDGET 2008 – EXPENSES

Staff representatives addressed the Commissioners with explanations about expense increases in the 2008 budget.

Colette explained a zero growth budget for 2008. For the administrative department, 2008 will mandate a new voice mail system, new postage meter, a 4% salary increase, landfill charges and storm sewer costs.

Forestry, as described by Mike Fugazzi, will see expenses increase because of insurance costs, utilities, salaries, and landfill costs. His department is purchasing a new two-wheel drive pickup and would like to purchase a stump grinder, which will pay for itself.

Recreation, reported by Bill Palmiscno, stated a 1% increase in expenses. The department had to increase wages for lifeguards and travel costs to hockey coaches and Scott Koberinski's salary is now in administration.

Steve Mullally reported increases for the Parks department will be with land fill fees, fuel, utilities and the spray parks.

He also reported a position on the parks crew has been vacant most of this year due to a retirement, and he anticipates filling that position in 2008 with an entry level employee.

Commissioner Panzer suggested looking at Eagle's Crest for the beer vendor at Lincoln Golf Course instead of Southgate.

He also suggested looking for sponsors for the Family Fun Night and Knight for a Princess events.

Commissioner Hutchison stated there was a large increase in the 2007 budget for utilities; is a large increase needed again in the 2008 budget?

Through discussion, the Commissioners had lots of questions on the expense side of the budget, and John stated the questions would be addressed and answers given to the Commissioners prior to the finalization of the 2008 budget.

C & B BUDGET AND TOUR

John proposed a mid-month tour of the facilities slated to be on the C & B list for 2008, and then have the Commissioners rate the projects after the tour.

The tour will take place at 3 p.m. on Monday, August 20.

FOR ACTION

GYMNASTICS CONTRACT

This contract has been before the Board a few times. The minor changes were finally put in place and the lease renewable each year.

A motion was made by Commissioner Panzer to approve the contract as it is. Seconded by Commissioner Jeske; motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE

All reports were accepted as presented.

BILLS TO BE APPROVED FOR JULY

A motion was made by Commissioner LaDouceur to approve the bills for July in the amount of \$402,724.57. Seconded by Commissioner Hutchison; motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORTS

All reports were accepted as presented.

Recreation reported summer programs ended August 3; Elks Pool is slated to close for the season August 19, but if staff is available it will be open the whole next week during abbreviated hours; the Eagles Arena will open September 17 and Gambucci Arena will open for the season on October 1.

Center Court Fitness Club reported to date membership at 1366.

Parks reported the Riverside Park tennis courts have been cleaned and ready for use for high school tennis.

Shelter roofs at University, Cox and Richards West Parks have been re-built. The new play equipment at Ben Franklin Park has been installed.

King's Walk Golf Course reported total to date rounds played at 5156. There are several golf events booked at the course for the month of August.

Lincoln Park Golf Course reported to date rounds played at 10, 310, with 3,610 played in July.

Forestry reported 518 street trees pruned, and 29 Dutch elm diseased elm removals and 126 request calls answered for the month of July.

BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Jeske inquired about the garden plots.

Commissioner Panzer stated there are lots of complaints about the thistle at King's Walk and commented it needs to be chopped down or cut out.

Commissioner Hutchison wanted reinforcement that the Park District is still committed to no roads running through Kiwanis Park.

Commissioner LaDouceur stated the timing of the All City and Junior Celebrity tournaments this year conflicted with the high school golf startup date and other sports.

John Staley reported the City is going to consider the skate park lease and have another public meeting.

He thanked the Board for the good discussion on the 2008 budget.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Panzer to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner LaDouceur; motion carried.

John Staley, Clerk

Jim Bollman, President