



Minutes of Parks Committee Meeting
Tuesday, September 12th, 2023
Council Chambers
5:00PM

Those in attendance were:

Judd Hart, Chair
Shane Knight, Vice-Chair
Stephanie Jones, Staff Liaison
Tom Farmer, Mayor
Frank Baptist

Steve Brown
Ann Spencer-Cole
Jeff Morrow
Jeff Hamm

The Parks Committee met on Tuesday, September 12th, 2023, in the Council Chambers and agreed to the following.

Chairman Hart asked to move Softball Contract up to the front of the agenda so the attendee can make it to another appointment. Alderman Morrow made the motion to move this item up on the agenda. Alderman Knight seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Chairman Hart moved on to the approval of the August 15th, 2023, minutes. Alderman Brown made a motion to accept the minutes. Alderman Morrow seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Chairman Hart moved on to the Softball Contract – Jones stated that there is an attachment in the packet. There was a short discussion regarding participation. Carl West stated that they are trying to get better participation. West reported that he has been putting the word out about the program and anticipates it to grow. Alderman Hamm made a motion to accept the contract. Alderman Morrow seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Chairman Hart moved on to 2024 Price Sheet – Chairman Hart stated that the price sheet is in the packet and noted that there are some price increases ranging between \$5 to \$10 due to increase in expenses. Jones reported that we have not increased our prices in a while, and it is needed because of inflation. Jones believes this increase will help offset expenses while still being comparable to other cities. Jones also noted that we offer scholarships to help families that need it. Alderman Knight made a motion to accept the 2024 price sheet. Alderman Hamm seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Chairman Hart moved on to Concessionaire RFQ – Chairman Hart reported that we had one submit a proposal, and that was Scott Hill who is the currently operating this contract. Alderman Hart stated that we will receive 15% revenue. BYSA runs the concession at Holland Baseball Park

so it is not included in this agreement. Alderman Baptist made a motion to approve the RFQ bid. Alderman Hamm seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Chairman Hart moved on to BHS Swim Contract – Chairman Hart stated that we do charge a fee for usage of the facility but nothing has changed from the previous years. Chairman Hart stated that we appreciate the school using our facility. Alderman Brown made a motion to approve the swim contract. Alderman Baptist seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Chairman Hart moved on to Tennis Contract – Chairman Hart stated this is the school renewing their use of Tyndall Park tennis courts. Nothing has changed from previous years. Alderman Morrow made a motion to approve the contract. Alderwoman Spencer-Cole seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Chairman Hart moved on to Mt. Bike Park Sponsorship Packet – Chairman Hart stated that this is for informational purposes only. Jones stated that they have been working with Progressive Trail Design to come up with a sponsorship packet. This will help to reach out to local businesses that would want to have their logo on benches, bike racks, kiosks, and trailhead markers. Jones stated that they will be seeking sponsorships for these things in the coming weeks. Jones reported that they will be pushing dirt this week and hope to have the project completed by the end of the year.

Chairman Hart moved on to Other – Jones reported that the department and staff will be recognized at the Arkansas Recreation and Parks Association Conference with four awards, two being for individuals. The Archery Complex will receive Outdoor Facility of the Year, Kids 2 Park Day will receive Festival of the Year, Junior Rodemeyer, who is the Assistant Director, will receive Professional of the Year, and Lauren Brown, who is one of the Recreation Programmers, will receive Young Professional of the Year. Jones stated that all the staff make this happen and it is an honor to get recognized throughout the state for their hard work.

Chairman Hart stated that Alderman Lee would like for us have a table that promotes what we are doing in the future setup by the canoe in River Center. Mayor Farmer stated that we should table this until he is present to discuss.

There was a short discussion regarding the benefit of the new security cameras. Jones does believe there has been a decrease in the amount of vandalism recently.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.