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**Cameron Park Board Meeting**

September 24, 2015

6:00 pm

Cameron City Hall

**Members Present:**

Chairman Bill Gimson

Al Briggs

Cory Brown

Wendy Copple

Jennifer Helmich

Carrie Sybert

Richard Whalen

**Members Absent:**

Ruth Hammontree

Jason Jones

**Others Attending:**

Drew Bontrager – Public Works Director

Steve Garr

Chris Johnson – Cameron Newspaper

Chairman Bill Gimson called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

**Approval of August 27, 2015 Minutes**

The Board asked the August 27, 2015 minutes to be corrected and read that Ms. Helmich made a motion to approve the treasurer's report.

*Mrs. Helmich made a motion to approve minutes of the August 27, 2015 meeting as corrected; seconded by Ms. Copple. On voice vote the motion carries as follows: ayes – 5, nays – 0, abstentions – 2 (Brown, Sybert), absent – 2.*

**Public Participation**

John Fiegert approached the Board and asked them to reject the request of Mayor Dennis Clark on the idea of giving monies to the school district for playground equipment. Mr. Feighert stated that the monies can be put to better use in the Parks and Recreation system.

Mr. Fiegert stated that the Board should be asking for \$85,000 for the pool and if it will not be approved for that the monies should go towards street improvements.

Mr. Fiegert stated that he will also be speaking to Dr. Robinson about the offer of financial assistance from the City.

Judy Cunningham also expressed her opinion that the Park Board should not be giving monies to the school.

Ms. Cunningham asked the Board about a sports association and what it would take to re-associate the association so sports can be more competitive and youth can be more prepared for school sports.

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Chairman Gimson stated that there are teams in Cameron that travel; however, there are not enough interested kids to play competitive ball.

Chairman Gimson suggested that if there were enough kids interested in competitive sports, a team should be put together to accommodate them.

Mr. Garr stated that if a team is put together, they are welcome to use the Cities facilities as long as all the qualifications for use are met.

Ms. Helmich stated that the cost outweighs the likelihood of the Board taking over youth sports; however, the Board has put together a contingency plan in case the YMCA's activities fall through.

Mr. Garr directed Ms. Cunningham to the City's website for the parks policy and necessary paperwork.

Mr. Garr did state that since the Board has an agreement with the YMCA on youth sports, they would have first priority on using the fields and there may be scheduling conflicts.

The Board encouraged Ms. Cunningham to put together a proposal and bring it back to another meeting so they can review it.

Dawn Swinderman expressed to the Board that she would also like them to reject the idea of donating money to the school district.

Jamie McVicker, representative of the Crossroads Crush event, encouraged everyone to attend the event held at McCorkle Park on September 26, 2015. There will be over 50 vendors and two live music stages. Mr. McVicker expressed his thanks for all the support of the event.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

The new fiscal year begins on October 1, 2015.

#### **Director/Foreman's Report**

##### **Doggie Days**

After discussions with Safe Haven, it was decided not to host Doggie Days at the aquatic facility this year. They have expressed interest in holding the event next year.

##### **Veteran's Memorial**

The work at the Veteran's Memorial has been completed. In late fall, the asphalt crews will complete the project and they will also overlay the roadway at the Memorial. Monies have been set aside in a fund for the Memorial that will cover the expense of the asphalt. Zack Workman of Lawns Unlimited donated his time, equipment and all material to the Veterans Group to level, seed and mulch the area.

Chairman Gimson asked about the sidewalks at the Memorial as they do not match up to the current driveway.

Mr. Bontrager stated that there is still storm sewer and street work to be completed and the sidewalks will be fixed after that work is completed.

The sidewalks will go up to and through the school parking lot. Eventually, the sidewalks will go around the school and Recreation Park.

##### **Christmas Lights**

Work is continuing on the Christmas lighting project at Recreation Park. The ground displays from McCorkle Park will be moved to Recreation Park. New displays have been ordered to keep McCorkle

Park, Recreation Park and downtown Cameron festive for the Christmas season. A total of 32 antique lights will be put up on the light polls around town.

Mr. Garr stated that the Christmas Parade will be held in the evening this year. The annual lighting ceremony will happen after the parade with the opportunity to see Santa Clause at Recreation Park.

Mr. Garr also stated that he will try to strengthen the frequency on the lights at Recreation Park so more people can tune in and hear the music.

#### **Girl Scouts**

A group of Girl Scouts led by Laura Funchess planted flowers in the planters in front of the aquatic facility.

#### **Crossroads Crush Festival**

The Crossroads Crush Festival will be held on September 26, 2015. All the requirements for alcohol in the park, road closures, insurance and reservations for the event have been met.

#### **Damage**

There was damage to the Soccer Complex and Veterans Memorial the prior weekend and earlier in the week. Lawns Unlimited has already fixed both areas by seeding, mulching, etc. Some irrigation heads were damaged at the Soccer Complex. Rough estimate on the damages would consider the event a felony. The WeTip posters have been circulated. WeTip offers up to \$1,000.00 on tips that lead to conviction or arrest.

#### **Additional Staff**

The Parks Department is still advertising for additional part time staff.

#### **Old Business**

##### **A: School Playground Equipment Contribution**

Chairman Gimson stated that he does not think additional monies need to be given to the school district for playground equipment as they can handle the purchase on their own.

Ms. Briggs also expressed that she did not think the school district needed the monies.

*Ms. Helmich made a motion to not donate monies to the school district for playground equipment; seconded by Mr. Whalen. On voice vote the motion carries as follows: ayes – 7, nays – 0, abstentions – 0, absent – 2.*

##### **B: Park Surveillance Equipment**

During the August meeting, the Board voted to move forward with new surveillance equipment at the Parks facilities. A request was made to find a second quote. A local company, DHJ Security, was found and they put a quote together for Recreation Park. DHJ Security does not have any equipment for underground or aerial work.

Both quotes were similar in price and materials. Some equipment was within \$13.00 of each other. Mr. Bontrager and Mr. Garr are still working through the details with both companies. They are also looking into the ongoing costs for monitoring, i.e. fire and burglar alarms on the doors of the buildings.

The determining factor on the company to go with will most likely be the ongoing costs.

There will be a direct feed of both video and alarms to the Police Station to monitor activity.

Mr. Whalen expressed that he would like to go with the local company if possible.

Mr. Garr stated that the Parks Department will be going with North Missouri Satellite for the upgrade to the Soccer Complex as the equipment was initially purchased through them and only an upgrade will be completed; not all new equipment.

Mr. Brown stated that he was disappointed on the quality of the pictures from the last incident at the Soccer Complex and asked if the new equipment would have better quality.

Mr. Bontrager stated that the equipment was installed when the facility was built and the new equipment will have much better quality.

### **New Business**

#### **A: Aquatic Facility and Ball Park Funding**

The City Manager has been directed to place a standing agenda item on both the City Council and Parks and Recreation Board agenda for public participation on issues related to the acquisition of funding for the pool and ball parks. The standing agenda item will continue for the remainder of 2015 and be extended as needed.

A request will be made to all philanthropic and social organizations asking them to invite a representative of the committee to present their draft proposal during the month of October.

### **Miscellaneous**

#### **School Use of Facilities**

Dr. Robinson and the school district are willing to work with the Park Board on the issue of field usage and appropriate compensation. Chairman Gimson is still planning on meeting with Dr. Robinson to discuss as soon as schedules allow.

#### **Recreation Park Lighting**

Mr. Whalen asked about a lights update at Recreation Park.

Mr. Bontrager stated that the City Manager is still working on the lighting and hopes to have it all installed and working for the holiday lighting ceremony.

### **Adjourn**

*Ms. Briggs made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Ms. Sybert. On voice vote the motion carries as follows: ayes – 7, nays – 0, abstentions – 0, absent – 2.*

The next scheduled meeting of the Park Board will be at 6:00 on October 22, 2015 at City Hall.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:55 pm.

*Chris Martin  
Secretary Recorder  
Cameron, MO 64429*