

**Cameron Park Board Meeting**  
September 28, 2017  
6:00 pm  
Cameron City Hall

**Members Present:**

Chairman – Bill Gimson  
Al Briggs  
Jennifer Helmich  
Jason Jones  
Carrie Sybert  
Richard Whalen

**Members Absent:**

Cory Brown  
Wendy Copple  
Ruth Sears

**Others Attending:**

Drew Bontrager – Public Works Director  
Annette Bauer – Cameron Citizen Observer

Chairman Gimson called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

**Approval of August 24, 2017 Minutes**

*Mr. Whalen made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 24, 2017 meeting; seconded by Ms. Briggs. On voice vote the motion carries as follows: ayes – 6, nays – 0, abstentions – 0, absent – 3.*

**Public Participation**

Jamey McVicker invited everyone to the Crossroads Crush event and thanked the Board for the usage of McCorkle Park.

Due to the nature of the petting zoo, Mr. McVicker asked if the event could be located in a grassy area. The Board agreed that this would be fine. Mr. McVicker will discuss this with Mr. Bontrager for more details and instruction.

Mr. McVicker also asked if the Golf Club could be a park of the master plan when it is implemented due to the Golf Course being located on City property. They would like to help out as much as possible.

**Treasurer's Report**

Fiscal year 2017 will end on September 30, 2017.

There are a few remaining items to complete that were included in the 2017 budget.

The Park's department came in under budget on expenses and approximately \$7,000 excess revenue was collected than expected. The reserve is currently at \$155,000.

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

### **Recreation Park**

The annual Chamber Christmas Parade and Lighting Ceremony will be held on November 25, 2017 at Recreation Park.

Staff has met with the Chamber representative to discuss the event and coordinate the evening. Additional meetings will be scheduled.

Ag safety day was held on September 28, 2017 in Recreation Park by the local FFA chapter for the third and fourth graders.

### **McCorkle Park**

The third annual Boo Fest will be held at McCorkle Park on October 31, 2017 from 1:00pm – 7:00pm. They will have games and possibly hot dogs in the park.

### **Dog Park Update**

The Street Department has completed all of the dirt work at the new Dog Park and Challenger Fence has completed the installation of the fence. Signs have been ordered.

Staff is still waiting on the survey from Midland Survey for the legal description on the boundary line adjustment.

A grand opening will hopefully happen in October.

### **Basketball Court Project Update**

The basketball goal posts have been installed along with two sets of benches and the fence on the ends of the courts. Sport court surfacing should occur in the next couple of weeks.

Staff is still working with the electrical design for additional park and court lighting. The style of lighting will be similar to the antique lighting in Recreation Park.

Mr. Jones entertained the idea of inviting the high school boys basketball team and coaches for the ribbon cutting during their *shoot-a-round* event if the timing of completion of the courts occurs around the same time.

Mr. Bontrager will keep this in mind and update the Board on the progress of the courts to possibly coordinate this event.

Mr. Bontrager stated that he has been in contact with Lawns Unlimited about adding bushes and trees to give some separation between different park uses and improve overall aesthetics.

## **New Business**

### **A: Vireo Draft Master Plan**

Larry with Vireo presented the final draft of the Parks Master Plan and encouraged them to provide feedback of the final plan.

Larry stated that the public open house went very well and there was a total of 36 participants that attended. The majority of the attendants were supportive of the draft master plan and the most common topics included: improving the aquatic center, expand the network of trails, improvements to existing parks and an additional athletic fields.

Mr. Whalen stated that he thought the open house went well.

Larry asked the Board to return comments/markups to him by October 12, 2017.

Larry also discussed the possibility of constructing a ball field complex on the city owned property behind Wal-Mart. The site would require a lot of grading to accommodate the ball fields; however, the utilities are already there.

Different concepts for field placement were suggested. Larry stated that Vireo can take a closer look at a completed park in the area if requested.

Mr. Jones asked what the general cost for a ball field complex would be.

Larry stated that the probably cost would be approximately \$3 million. This price would include top of the line fields and would not include the land purchase.

Mr. Whalen asked how much it would cost to prep the land for the ball fields.

Mr. Bontrager stated that the costs have not been explored yet.

There is room in the area to add a retention pond for storm water purposes and a "feature" could be added to make is aesthetically pleasing. There could also be a small field for football or soccer practices.

Items located at Recreation Park could also be relocated to the area to reduce the clutter and add features to the new park.

Mr. Whalen asked how the Park Board could acquire the land in question.

Mr. Bontrager stated that the Board would have to ask City Council.

Mr. Jones asked what the downside would be to owning the property now.

Mr. Bontrager stated that currently the City has a hay permit application in place for the property right now and the process would continue until the property was ready to develop. Right now, work release mows and trims the area.

Chairman Gimson stated that acquiring the property would be a step in the right direction as there would be a designated area for the ball field complex.

The Board asked Larry to put together a park facility in the area with trails, playground, etc. to get an idea for the area.

Larry stated that the scope is beyond the current contract and there would be an additional contract required for the work.

Larry will put a quote together and provide it to Mr. Bontrager for review.

Mr. Whalen questioned the aquatic facility and asked if funding the facility for a minute number of the Cameron population was worth it.

Chairman Gimson stated that currently, the City is losing people to other facilities with better amenities. The swim team has substantially grown over the years and needs a facility.

Mr. Jones asked if the parks master plan could be set-up at the Crossroads Crush event.

Ms. Helmich stated that it would be a good idea to set it up; however, she did not feel that the Board should be there to answer questions.

Mr. Jones suggested having comment cards available for feedback.

Mr. Bontrager stated that the posters could be set-up inside the Fireman's Memorial so they are out of the weather.

Annette Bauer stated that she can post that the posters are available for viewing on the newspaper's Facebook page with notice to comment at the Crossroads Crush event.

The Board stated that they would like to see this happen at the event.

### Old Business

#### **A: Proposed Changes to Field Use Agreement**

As requested at the August meeting, staff reviewed the practice fee schedule and prepared a sample draft of the agreement for discussion.

Fees for sports practices were added and structure was added for season based practices.

Mr. Bontrager suggested starting low as there will be upset individuals if a fee is imposed; however, once everyone is used to it, it will not be as big of a deal.

Ms. Sybert asked if the school will be included with the new fee structure.

Mr. Bontrager stated that the school has a separate agreement; however, this would be required if a new agreement is not resigned.

The fee structure would be required at the soccer complex however because it is not included in the current agreement.

Mr. Garr put together the recommended fees based on research.

Chairman Gimson stated that the proposed agreement is fair.

*Mr. Whalen made a motion to approve the changes to the field use agreement as presented; seconded by Ms. Briggs. On voice vote the motion carries as follows: ayes – 6, nays – 0, abstentions – 0, absent – 3.*

### Miscellaneous

Mr. Whalen stated that material costs are on the rise due to the recent natural events. New amenities to the parks will cost more than originally projected.

### Adjourn

*Mr. Jones made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Whalen. On voice vote the motion carries as follows: ayes – 6, nays – 0, abstentions – 0, absent – 3.*

The next scheduled meeting of the Park Board is scheduled for October 26, 2017 at 6:00 at City Hall.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:10 pm.

*Chris Martin  
Secretary Recorder  
Cameron, MO 64429*

*Bill Gimson  
10/26/17*