

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting Date: February 9, 2023, 6 p.m., mayor's office

Present: Bubba Gregory, Chris Gregory, Landon Gulley, Lonnie Taylor, Mark Presley, Alan Carman, Richard Johnson, Public Works Director Cliff Sallee, Mayor Jack McCall

Others Present: Stephen Byrd representing Hartsville Little League, Joe Slagle from Public Works

Chairman Bubba Gregory called the meeting to order once a quorum was established.

Minutes of the January 2023 meeting were reviewed, with Landon Gulley requesting addition on reason for park survey. Motion to approve as amended by Lonnie Taylor, second by Gulley. Motion approved.

Cliff Sallee presented update on work at Little League ballfields. Public Works is trenching lines, probably 25-30% done as of meeting date. PW plans to run new water lines and hopes to have done by the end of next week. Rewiring ballfields could take as much as a mile's worth of wiring but PW is trying to save where possible. Stephen Byrd said Little League plans to start practice on March 6. Sallee said fields will be playable by that date even if work is not all done. Byrd asked if light switch could be moved to limit access. Sallee indicated that committee had preferred to leave as is. Alan Carman asked about timer.

Bubba Gregory said Executive Committee has inquired about gating the park to limit access after closing. Sallee said gate wouldn't stop people from getting into the park.

Mayor Jack McCall said county may start requiring permits to use Court Street by courthouse and that similar option could be possible for using park lights on special occasions. Mayor also asked about getting keypad access to light switch. Sallee indicated several options are available.

Motion by Gulley to leave switch as is for now, with option to change it later, second by Mark Presley. Motion approved.

Byrd asked if Little League could rent port-a-pottys for use until park bathrooms are turned on. Sallee said bathrooms can be turned on at any time, but the only concern is flooding. Taylor noted that having bathrooms now would be convenient for LL parents and kids. Gulley asked who had liability if port-a-pottys are used. Byrd indicated that was a question for whatever company provided them. Sallee said bathrooms would be turned on as soon as weather conditions allowed.

Sallee provided update on new cameras for park. Purchase order has been sent. Waiting for the company to come out and review, no timeframe for completion yet.

Discussion turned to 2023 pool season.

Cliff has sent pricing requests for chemicals, will have by next meeting.

Some applications in, Amy has submitted proposed pay scale of \$10/hr for lifeguards, \$12 for assistant managers, \$15 for manager, \$11 for security, \$12 for laborers (total estimated cost \$44,912), with no bonus. Gulley noted that he thought pool lost about \$20K last year but that he felt the increased pay rate would make positions more attractive. Bubba Gregory said loss was \$14,674 based on previous committee minutes. Sallee said one person has expressed interest in manager position and has prior experience. Gulley said he knew teachers who had expressed interest as well.

Sallee said flyers have been sent to high school. Taylor said we could examine bonus possibility later on. Sallee said some counties make kids pay own certification costs and reimburse, while Trousdale pays up front. That has been problem in the past and TC might consider other model. Chris Gregory asked if kids could afford cost of certification (roughly \$200) and if we had tried sending applications to surrounding counties. Sallee said we could try that. Gulley asked if PW is comfortable with pay scale numbers. Sallee said yes. Paying for lifeguard training to be decided later.

Motion to approve pay scale by Lonnie Taylor, second by Mark Presley. Motion approved.

Discussion turned to length of pool season. Taylor said he is asked consistently about staying open even on weekends in August. Bubba Gregory said it's hard to get help once school starts. Sallee said the expenses wouldn't be justified, as chemicals would have to run all week long, running the pump. Sallee said people ask every few years it seems like. Extracurricular activities make it hard to get help as well.

Discussion turned to pool menu. Sallee wants to get rid of hot food and go to prepackaged, would save county having to get food permit and prevent waste. Taylor asked about getting microwave and adding frozen pizza sticks. Bubba Gregory asked if permit would be needed for microwaveable items. Sallee didn't think so, will check on pricing of microwaveable items and report back in March. Presley asked about allowing food trailers, was told that will kill pool sales.

Discussion turned to pool fees. Sallee said Lafayette has gone to \$6.50 admission and proposed that Trousdale move to \$6, with 2-under still free. Cost of season passes were discussed with proposal to raise individual to \$80, family to \$225 with \$10 first-day discount. Parties would increase to \$125 for 2-hour w/ less than 50, \$190 for 2-hour w/ over 50, \$225 for 3-hour. Chris Gregory asked about changing hours of operation from 10-5 to noon-7, would still allow for parties after closing. Chris felt this would encourage more adults and families to attend later in the day. Sallee said pool parties were booked solid last year and were moneymaker for pool. Will provide report on number of pool parties at March meeting, and check with other pools to see what they do in terms of hours/parties.

Motion to approve fees as discussed by Chris Gregory, second by Alan Carman. Motion approved.

Committee will decide on pool hours/schedule at March meeting.

Discussion turned to work at courthouse. Sallee said duct work has been done over last two weeks, electricians have been inside working but no outside units arrived yet. Was supposed to be 30-45 day turnkey project when contract was signed, but "shocking" damage has been done to building. Some commissioners have done walkthrough and observed damage. Company is supposed to fix damage. Sallee is worried company will leave damage in county's hands if not held to count. Chris Gregory asked if county attorney has sent letter to Trane. Mayor indicated he believed so. Gulley asked if old boiler was being removed, Sallee said in phases.

Taylor asked if county could ask for reduction in costs due to delays and damage. Mayor asked if county has had Trane higher-ups out to examine building. Sallee said not yet.

Gulley said county needs to put pressure on company. Said he believes no permits pulled for work, no state inspection, and no Tri-County inspection. Bubba Gregory asked who at Trane is ultimately over project. Sallee said Matt (no last name). Sallee said with no permit, county could be liable in the end.

Sallee provided update on Masonic bell. USS original estimate was \$4,000, jumped up to \$10,300. Public Works has done work itself, paid \$700 to Johnny Hawkins for concrete pad. Total cost may be \$1,200 because of damage to adjoining sidewalk.

Bubba Gregory asked about Public Works staffing needs. Sallee said close to hiring three new staff. Odell is out of hours to clean county buildings and county-paid service doesn't cover all buildings.

Gulley asked about status of new trash truck. Sallee said should be here in May.

Next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, March 7 at 7 p.m. at Community Center following Executive Committee meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Lonnie Taylor, second by Landon Gulley. Motion approved.

Minutes presented by Chris Gregory