

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting Date: July 19, 2023, 6 p.m., Community Center

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

Others Present: Callie White, unidentified member of Public Works staff

Chairman Bubba Gregory called the meeting to order.

Minutes of the June 13, 2023 meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve by Taylor, second by Presley. Motion approved.

Discussion opened on swimming pool season. Sallee reported that things are slowing down as end of pool season nears. He should have a financial summary by the first, maybe second week of August. New assistant in Public Works has been hired as well. B.Gregory asked about pool closing date, it is July 23. C.Gregory noted that committee had asked to have pool open last weekend of July, Sallee said there is not enough staff to do so. Taylor asked if all pool parties had been held. Sallee said yes, unless any unexpected storms in remaining days. If need be, department will roll booking over to 2024 (has been done in past w/ no issues).

Sallee said things have been better overall at pool this year. Pool will need some more chemicals as they do not seem to be lasting as long as in past years. No security issues this year, Sallee said two youths were kicked out early and the message seems to have gotten out.

Discussion turned to playground and upcoming LPRF grant. Sallee said he has talked to Amy Thomas about the fence and will begin removal in coming days. Removal of old play equipment is expected to begin once school starts. Equipment that is still good (swingsets, spring rockers) will be kept. Sallee asked if schools still want old equipment that will not be kept. Gulley said he has talked to TCES Principal Demetrice Badru and that the school does want old equipment. C.Gregory noted that committee voted in July to recommend that Commission declare old equipment as surplus but that it was not on July agenda. Gulley asked if anything not declared surplus would have to be listed on GovDeals website. Sallee said any items could be auctioned or sold as scrap if not surplus.

Sallee also noted Public Works staff has looked at gazebo currently in playground. They believe it will be difficult to move without it falling apart. If it is moved, committee will need to identify a new location. No decision on gazebo made.

B.Gregory presented brochure he received from Blue Cross Blue Shield on grant possibilities for parks, would like to see committee explore this in the future.

Discussion turned to courthouse repairs. Sallee said staff has finished ceiling tiles in all but two spots. Ceiling has been lowered in some areas, looks as good as can be. Courtroom has been cleaned, some technical work needs doing with video system to allow Commission to resume meeting there. Cleaning crew was supposed to be out this week, no sign of them yet. Sallee said PW staff can do work and bill the company if committee approves. Downstairs flooring will need sanding, some other work.

Taylor asked if county attorney needs to get involved, Sallee said he felt not yet. Sallee hopes to have everything wrapped up by second week of August to allow for meetings to resume there.

B.Gregory asked if county has to sign off on anything. Mayor McCall indicated that Trane does not want us in building until they have signed off. Sallee said county walkthrough may be necessary.

Sallee said company wants cord run to AC unit to allow for remote access but expressed concerns over potential for hacking into county files. He noted the Justice Center has to be disconnected at times for

this reason and wants to avoid county being charged for company to check out any small issues remotely. Taylor said it is possible to set up switch to limit any remote access to AC only and have firewall between county data with different IP address.

Gulley noted that we may be unable to hold anyone to account for delays since money was paid at beginning of project, asked if it is time to move on. Also asked when one year of service coverage started, when installed or when project ends? Sallee is not sure, some training on new system is still needed. B.Gregory asked if mayor has been in communication with Trane in recent days, McCall said he has not.

Sallee noted that new backhoe arrived last Friday. No word yet on new front loader truck, contacted them three weeks ago. Was supposed to take a month to put the chassis on, now has been two to three months. County has account to rent one if needed, but Sallee has not seen need to do so yet.

Sallee said he has some part-time high school students available to help with Public Works projects, asked if committee wants them to work on courthouse. Electrician also supposed to be in this week, some wires shorted out and need rewiring. Motion to approve use of part-time help at courthouse by Presley, second by Gulley. Motion approved.

Floor opened to public comment, none made.

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, August 23 at 6 p.m., site to be determined. Motion to adjourn by C.Gregory, second by Carman. Motion approved.

Minutes presented by Chris Gregory