

## PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Meeting Date:** March 13, 2024, 6 p.m., Community Center

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

**Others Present:** Amy Thomas, Kerri Garner, Jerod Mitchell, Crystal Justice

Chairman Bubba Gregory called the meeting to order.

Minutes of the February 21, 2024 meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve with amendment by Gulley, second by Carman. Motion approved.

Discussion held on park projects. Sallee said pre-construction meeting was held March 11 and presented timeline for work to committee. Completion planned by July 13, 2024. Sallee said conduit cables for camera/internet upgrades in park will be buried while ground is dug up. Cables will be placed in pipe to ease future access if needed. Gulley noted timeline says invoice on July 3, wants to wait until after project is done because of courthouse problems.

Motion by Gulley to delay payment of invoice until project is completed, second by C. Gregory. Motion approved.

Gulley asked about plans for using old fence posts and bricks with names. Sallee said they are in storage and new playground will have metal fencing. C. Gregory asked about soliciting ideas from public via social media. Sallee said he would like to see something in brick, saying walkway would go around new play area. Committee discussed a stone plaque bearing the names originally on wood posts and bricks. Gulley asked if we have list of all names, Sallee said previous posts lost were replaced. People have said if posts not used, they want them back. Mayor Jack McCall said only one person has asked about their use, said he told them would be some kind of memorial wall. Committee noted plaque would be one-time cost with less upkeep. Mayor noted that plaque was designed for park rules and a similar type might be good. Carman asked about bricks, mayor mentioned possibility of crosswalk either downtown or in park containing those. Gulley asked about putting brick perimeter around park sidewalk, mayor said if that is choice, bear in mind cost and permanence. Overman asked about revisiting this discussion at April meeting.

Discussion turned to 2024 pool season. Garner said rental agreement for pool parties has been updated and PW has 11 lifeguards as of meeting date. Jimmy Floyd Center and Gallatin Civic Center both have options for training - \$240 at JF and \$225 at GCC. Training is 21 hours, including seven online. Garner said GCC offers \$10 repeat course if lifeguards fails initial certification. Dates TBD, nothing until after spring break. Sallee said PW has started this process early enough that we should be in good shape, still needs two assistant managers. Garner said there may be option for one-day certification training at Hartsville pool at later date.

Gulley asked about lifeguard pay, \$11 per hour according to Sallee. Overman asked about any issue paying for lifeguards to certify if they are not official employees yet. Carman said he believed they would be contract employees, so no labor issues.

Motion by Gulley to pay lifeguards \$240 at end of pool season to cover certification training time, also to pay \$240 to returning certified lifeguards, second by Presley. Motion approved with Overman abstaining for cause (her son is applying to be lifeguard).

Discussion held on pool opening/closing. B. Gregory said last day of school is May 17, first day back in school is Aug 2. Overman asked about staying open weekends in August, Sallee noted cost of chemicals makes it not worth it. Sallee said PW would ask lifeguard applicants about possibly staying open weekends and/or select evenings after school starts, will report to committee. Gulley asked about pass discount on opening day, C. Gregory asked if could be extended to opening weekend.

Motion by C. Gregory to open pool May 18, leave closing date TBD and offer pass discount on May 18-19, second by Presley. Motion approved.

Discussion turned to BlueCross BlueShield park grant, with presentation from Crystal Justice. She has reviewed current park layout and park master plan, gave her contact info to committee members for any questions. C. Gregory asked how she felt about committee plan for upgrading tennis/volleyball/basketball courts. Justice mentioned past projects BCBS has sponsored and feels this would be along those lines. Sallee noted that basketball courts are in good shape and would be limited to lighting as part of grant application. Tennis court will need to be completely redone if grant approved. Gulley asked about volleyball courts, Sallee noted county purchase under Mayor Carroll Carman of land between tennis courts and restroom, so there is room for volleyball and pickleball could stay on tennis court. Multi-use field from master plan also mentioned in big open area to right of stage. Sallee also noted previous discussions on kayak dock into Goose Creek in corner of park, Gulley noted would need Army Corps of Engineers permission. Presley noted that amphitheater is in rough shape, C. Gregory mentioned Rotary Club is looking for projects and that might be possibility. Overman asked if there is any money limit on this application. Justice will research the most they've done and report back to committee. Gulley suggested taking right side of park master plan (tennis, basketball, volleyball, multi-use courts & kayak dock, lighting walking trail) and making one large submission.

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 4 at 6 p.m. at Community Center.

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

*Minutes presented by Chris Gregory.*