

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting Date: April 4, 2024, 6 p.m., Community Center

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

Others Present: Amy Thomas, Kerri Garner, Jerod Mitchell

Vice Chairman Lonnie Taylor called the meeting to order as Chairman Bubba Gregory was absent.

Minutes of the March 13, 2024 meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve by Overman, second by Gulley. Motion approved.

Discussion held on swimming pool. Sallee said Public Works has opportunity to train lifeguards in Hartsville pool instead of sending elsewhere. Amy Gerald, certified American Red Cross, has 1-day training at \$200 per person. Tentatively scheduled for May 4 with a May 11 rain date. Gulley asked if pool will be ready by May 4, Sallee said yes. Gregory asked about reaching out to Lafayette/Carthage to offer opportunity to train, their guards already have local option. Gulley asked about maximum number of people at pool to train, estimated 15. Sallee said two bids received for chemicals and they are similar. Gregory asked if lifeguards had been asked about availability in August, they have not. Garner said manager has to go back to college August 24-25.

Discussion turned to playground. Sallee said construction is still on planned timeline, presented photo options of wall and/or plaque for names to replace fence posts and bricks. Sallee estimated 1100-1500 names total, said as much as 50% of posts have some damage. Options include wall near bathrooms, climbing wall. Commemorative bricks could be sold as fundraiser for \$100, with only \$18 cost to produce. Playground is supposed to have metal rail fence. Gregory mentioned showing photos to people, who liked the wall idea. Sallee suggested if wall is chosen, don't have it go all the way to ground as some of the planks are 25 years old. Gulley asked how many bricks we currently have with names, Sallee estimated 150 or so. Suggestion made for brick wall with plaque at center, perhaps with park rules also, as would require less maintenance. Overman asked if there was a master list of the names anywhere, Sallee said Jerry Ford might have one as he did the woodwork on original planks. Carman asked about opening up opportunity for public to add names to plaque for a fee, committee expressed support for idea.

Motion by Gulley to utilize brick wall with plaque containing names and to allow public to add names for fee to be determined, second by Gregory. Motion approved.

Gulley asked if sidewalk will be expanded as part of park project. Sallee said yes, will expand walkway from parking lot into play area.

Discussion turned to BlueCross grant proposal. Sallee provided list of previously funded BCBS projects in packet. Mayor McCall noted that many previous grants have been in metropolitan areas, but Williamson County grant writer told him she believed BCBS would focus more on rural areas going forward, so it would be an excellent opportunity to apply. Gregory noted only one tennis court and four basketball courts were among past funded projects. Gulley asked if previous grants were available to public to view, and if previous grants had asked for more and got less, unknown to both. Gulley noted all parts of our request are on the county's park master plan. Taylor asked if refurbishing money is available, could Little League bleachers be included. Gregory asked about including a splashpad, noting public

demand for one on the survey taken before master plan. Splashpads are generally deemed too costly to operate and to maintain. Gulley asked about timeline of grant application, due by end of August but county wants to send it ASAP once grant window opens.

Committee endorsed asking for roughly right half of master plan, all ball courts, LL bleachers, walking track and bathroom renovation.

Discussion returned to fence posts and bricks. Fence posts were \$50 when originally purchased. Presley asked about any covering on plaque to limit weathering, that is TBD. Presley also noted need to advertise this option to public and to get quotes for making plaque before making a final decision. Gulley said fee should not be less than \$50 for plaque name addition. Sallee said he had heard from some folks willing to pay for bricks, Overman suggested as potential new fundraiser for park, asked about advertising to public. Amy Thomas asked about timeline for starting to advertise, Presley suggested getting quote before determining cost. Taylor asked who makes these plaques, Sallee to investigate and report back.

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 16 at 6 p.m. at site TBD.

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

Minutes presented by Chris Gregory.