

CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 08/08/2023

REQUESTER: Jason Olsen, Director of Parks and Recreation

PRESENTER: Jason Olsen, Director of Parks and Recreation

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT AND/OR

POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2324-36: A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, ADOPTING THE YOUNG FAMILY ATHLETIC CENTER (YFAC) FACILITIES POLICY MANUAL FOR THE OPERATION OF YFAC BY THE CITY OF NORMAN

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT.

BACKGROUND:

In October of 2015, Norman citizens passed the Norman Forward Initiative, funding various projects through a ½% sales tax increase over 15 years. The Norman Forward Initiative included projects to construct a new Multi-Sport Complex and Indoor Aquatic Facility.

The Multi-Sport Complex and Indoor Aquatic Facility were initially proposed as separate projects. After extensive public input and consideration by the City Council, acting as Trustees of the Norman Municipal Authority (NMA), these projects were combined into one more extensive project in 2018, located at the southeast corner of 24th Avenue NW and Rock Creek Road. This new sports and aquatic complex will include eight full-sized basketball or 12 volleyball courts; a 25-meter, eight-lane lap pool; a 25-yard, four-lane warm-up pool; concession stands; retail space; administration offices; and, through a partnership with Norman Regional Health System (NRHS), a health and wellness clinic to be placed between the multi-sports and aquatic complexes.

Oklahoma City firm Frankfurt, Short, Bruza (FSB) was selected as the project's architectural and engineering (A/E) consultant in March 2018. The building and the project were named the Young Family Athletic Center ("YFAC") in July of 2021 (K-2122-27) after the Trae Young Family Foundation (TYFF) agreed to donate \$4,000,000 to the construction of the building. NRHS has committed a minimum of \$6.7 million through a contract approved by the City Council in June of 2023 (K-2122-99) towards constructing a human sports and performance clinic inside the YFAC called "N-Motion."

DISCUSSION:

On February 9, 2021, the City entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (K-2021-93) with the Columbus Corporation of Oklahoma City dba Santa Fe Family Life Center (SFFLC) to develop a contractual agreement to operate the YFAC.

This past May, operator contract negotiations with SFFLC ceased for their organization to become the YFAC operator. Due to the complexities of the request of both Community Groups and the City, it became apparent to the Parks and Recreation Department that the risks associated with operations of the YFAC would be better for both Sante Fe and the City if we went in a different direction.

The Parks Department provided updates to the Norman Forward Sales Tax Citizen's Financial Oversight Board at its meeting on July 18, 2023 and to the Norman Forward Indoor Aquatic and Multi-Sport Facility Ad Hoc Group at its meeting on July 24, 2023. Presentation and discussion focused on the proposal that the City operate the facility and included the proposed maintenance and operation budget, revenue projects, fee schedule and the YFAC Facility Policy Manual. Both groups accepted the proposal that the City operate the facility and the associated business plan and policy manual. A similar update was provided to the Norman Parks Board on August 3 and they similar endorsed the City's operation of the YFAC and recommended Council adopoted the Young Family Athletic Center Facility Policy Manual as presented.

At the July 25, 2023, Council Conference, the Parks Department gave a presentation with backup information that would make the Parks and Recreation Department the operator of the YFAC. Parks presented a maintenance and operation budget, revenue projections, fee schedule, and YFAC Facility Policy Manual that would need to be adopted by the City Council.

The YFAC Facility Policy Manual will give the Director of Parks and Recreation (" Director") authority to set the pricing schedule and fees, which include membership fees, day passes, rental and event fees, or other general fees associated with the YFAC. The Director can also enter into agreements with Community/Operational partners to rent the YFAC for events, practices, or meetings. The Director also can enter into sponsorship or marketing agreements with groups at the YFAC on behalf of the City of Norman. All of the policies mentioned above must be annual agreements to be reviewed and recommended by the Norman Park Board of Commissioners before any changes take place.

The YFAC Facility Policy Manual also includes a Community and Operational Partners list and a Fee Schedule. The policy also includes event rentals, party or practice rentals, a payment policy, and a cancellation policy related to the YFAC.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt R-2324-36, the Young Family Athletic Center Facility Policy Manual for the Parks and Recreation Department as Operators of the YFAC.