



City of Sidney, MT  
Park and Recreation Committee Meeting 2-12-2024  
February 12, 2024 5:30 PM  
115 2nd Street SE | Sidney, MT 59270

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The City Council meetings are open to the public attending in person, with masks encouraged when social distancing cannot be accomplished. If the public does not wish to participate in person, they are also invited to participate via a Zoom meeting. You can participate via phone:

Meeting ID: 713 080 5898      Passcode: 4332809      Call: 1-346-248-7799

**Aldermen Present:** DiFonzo, Stevenson, Christensen

**Others Present:** Mayor Norby, PSD Hintz, Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Schmierer, Jordan Mayer (Interstate Engineering), Jackie Laqua, Peter Erickson

**1. New Business**

**a. Svarre Pool (continued)**

Alderman DiFonzo started the meeting by summarizing the January 24, 2024 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting. Alderman DiFonzo had requested PWD Hintz review and write recommendations before any further action was taken regarding the Svarre pool bulkhead.

PWD Hintz provided written review and response to the information provided by Interstate Engineering on behalf of the Sidney Tiger Sharks swim team regarding the permanent bulkhead installation for the Svarre pool. PWD Hintz stated that current lap swimmers and a portion of swim team members during daily practice prefer to swim the full length of the pool. If a permanent bulkhead/dock is mounted, the length will be reduced, affecting all swimmers. PWD Hintz stated he has concerns with the weight of a permanent bulkhead and the risk of unknown structure distress. The geotechnical soil report from Braun Engineering was completed in January 1991, 33 years ago. Further information would likely require destructive testing of the current pool floor to properly analyze the effects. PWD Hintz stated that over years original soil gravel/aggregate dissipates, this is demonstrated in the sinking sidewalks slabs and decking around the pool. The city crew has mud jacked some of the voids over the years, including repairs done in the spring of 2023.

PWD Hintz stated that it doesn't appear that the pool is leaking water or showing any signs of significant cracks or distress. He would like to have a water meter installed to track and calculate water used each pool season. The city crew has performed some crack repairs to the pool walls in recent years using Sikaflex products.

PWD Hintz stated one of the major concerns he has is the annual spring cleaning of the pool tank. This operation consists of using a fire hose and nozzle to pressure wash/flush the algae, sludge, debris, and animal carcasses from the pool tank. The tank is then washed with a diluted acid base water mixture and scrubbed with bristle brooms and brushes. A final rinse is then done with the fire hose and nozzle. The permanent bulkhead would be considered a confined space and therefore much consideration and precaution would be required for the safety if personnel completing the annual cleaning task. PWD Hintz thanked the Tiger shark team and parents for their assistance in the cleaning task over the years.

PWD Hintz concluded that a permanent bulkhead could be more of a detriment rather than a benefit to the facility. A permanent structure could possibly lead to serious consequences in the future years ahead. A temporary bulkhead installed annually for the one or two events per year would keep the facilities options open for future use.

Alderman Christensen and Alderman Stevenson had no further questions and agreed with PWD Hintz recommendations for a temporary bulkhead rather than permanent.

Mr. Erickson stated he understands the concerns of the city.

Mayor Norby thanked Mr. Mayer and Interstate Engineering for their review and input provided. Mayor Norby agreed that a temporary structure would be better for the future of the pool.

Alderman DiFonzo spoke regarding the future of the pool and the longevity of it, noting that the next pool or in the future a better permanent or temporary option may be available.

Mr. Mayer asked Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin to locate the verbiage from the insurance company to address the issue the city has with the bulkhead not being engineer certified and compliant with insurance. Mr. Mayer will provide the information the Interstate Engineering structural team to try to find a solution. Alderman DiFonzo asked for them to keep the City updated on what the final plan is for the temporary dock.

Recommendation to not proceed with a permanent bulkhead.

## **b. Tennis court**

PWD Hintz provided email documentation on a material quote from Sport Court of Montana based in Great Falls. The material quote price is \$153,672, an additional \$6942 for 6 pickleball net systems, \$400 freight, and \$15,980 to install Sport Game PB outdoor tile for 2 tennis courts and 6 pickleball courts where the current 3 tennis courts occupy. The Sport Game PB outdoor tile has a 15 year limited warranty and is UV resistant. It can be pulled up and relayed if needed, but is not intended to be pulled up and re-layed each season.

Alderman DiFonzo asked if the Sport Court can be placed on asphalt as the email sources laying it over concrete. PWD Hintz will verify that use over asphalt is acceptable. PWD Hintz stated the price to tear out the asphalt and lay concrete pad would be a cost near a million dollars and not something the city would be able to budget for many years. PWD Hintz noted that the courts were constructed with asphalt 20 years ago as an affordable option.

PWD Hintz stated that the last resurfacing was done 5 or 6 years ago from a business in western Montana. The gentleman that did the resurfacing work told PWD Hintz that the court was not worth resurfacing again after his last visit. PWD Hintz stated that there are lateral cracks and significant signs of aging on the existing courts. The city crew can crack seal and paint the court as a cost saving option.

Alderman DiFonzo asked if the cost could be reduced if we focused on a portion of the area rather than the entire complex floor area.

Alderman Christensen is concerned with the cost associated with pouring new concrete slab.

Alderman Stevenson would like PWD Hintz to verify if the material can be placed on asphalt instead of concrete, also noting that it is a high price to consider spending for a few interested pickleball and tennis patrons.

Clerk/Treasurer stated the current expenditure is \$114,508 without doing a budget amendment.

General consensus of the committee is to have PWD Hintz provide cost of chip seal repair and painting the courts for the 2024 season.