



City of Sidney, MT
Park and Recreation Committee Meeting
August 08, 2022 5:00 PM
115 2nd Street SE | Sidney, MT 59270

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: 836 4307 4191 Passcode: 4332809 Call: 1-346-248-7799

1. **New Business**

a. SMV Playground Equipment

PWD Hintz provided the Park and Recreation Committee with a site plan drawing for the proposed playground equipment in South Meadow Park by Adult Softball. PWD Hintz stated the plans are to scale per the manufacturer and Ms. Azure stated it is approximately 31 feet by 34 feet not including the fence around, with a 36 by 36 foot fence with hopefully benches inside of.

Alderman DiFonzo asked if the plan is to fence it, as it is not shown on the plans and Ms. Azure stated it is. He further asked if the barrier is planned to be moved to vehicles cannot park against the fence and PWD Hintz stated yes. Alderman DiFonzo asked where the ingress for the fence would be and Ms. Azure stated towards the center of the complex, which would be approximately southeast facing. Alderman DiFonzo stated he has concerns with kids running around without supervision with the playground being in the parking lot, as children could be running in the parking lot amongst the cars, and by having the playground equipment in that location it invites the kids towards the cars. Ms. Azure stated that is why they want to have it fenced. Alderman DiFonzo asked why this side instead of the other side and Ms. Azure stated not only the foul balls but also the sight of the concession stand towards the fields. Alderman DiFonzo asked if it could be moved in closer to the bleachers and Ms. Azure stated she believed it was due to sprinkler lines and PWD Hintz stated there is a sewer line from the concessions into the adult softball. Alderman DiFonzo stated by moving it forward it would be under the current netting and Ms. Azure stated if moved in it could be looked into putting in two access points.

Alderman DiFonzo stated with adult softball purchasing it, it becomes city property once installed and Mayor Norby stated it would be. Ms. Azure stated they would keep it clean during the season, but the maintenance and upkeep would become the City's responsibility as it will be City property. Alderman DiFonzo stated by moving the barricade to prevent people from parking right against the fence would make it safer. He stated this location is currently a designated parking lot, so unless the boundaries of the parking lot are changed, it will not be safe for children. He stated this can be done by changing the current barricade to be around the fenced in playground area

with one entrance to the fence facing southeast. Ms. Azure stated they are planning to do a 4-foot chain link fence and Alderman DiFonzo stated he has concerns that with a 4 foot fence the kids will try to climb the fence, he would prefer to see a 5- or 6-foot fence around the equipment, whatever the height of the fencing the park currently is.

Alderwoman Godfrey asked if there was money available in the SMV Park Maintenance Fund and Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated there is \$7,000 available in that fund above this year's appropriations and there is also \$17,000 in ball parks fund. Alderman DiFonzo stated the only cost that would actually happen would be if the city decides it needs to extend the netting out to cover it. Ms. Azure stated during this project they would like to update the roof of the two dugouts on field 3 to match the other fields and concrete under the bleachers.

Motion was made to recommend approval of the location as provided by the site plan for the playground equipment with the conditions that the equipment has a 5-to-6-foot fence with one entrance towards the field, the barricades are moved to encompass the playground and the city provide additional netting to cover the equipment and to allow the further improvements to the dugout roofs and concrete under the bleachers on field 3.

Motion made by DiFonzo, Seconded by Christensen.
Voting Yea: DiFonzo, Godfrey, Christensen

Adjourned at 5:29pm.