



City of Sidney, MT
Park and Recreation Committee Meeting 10-26-2022
October 26, 2022 11:00 AM
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: 864 7366 6814 Passcode: 4332809 Call: 1-346-248-7799

Alderman Present: DiFonzo, Godfrey and Christensen

Others Present: PWD Hintz, Parks Superintendent Ridl, SPS Athletic Director Chris Lee

1. New Business

a. South Meadow Softball Lights-request to look into cost

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated after discussing further with Mr. Rosaaen, all they are looking for currently is permission to look into cost to see if it is something they can feasibly fundraise.

Alderman DiFonzo stated he does not feel they need permission to look into cost, just for the actual placement. He further stated they will need to look into setup, location and heights with an engineer, which will cost more money that they will need to consider. PWD Hintz stated they can hire a consultant for lighting on fields, but he does not know of any local.

It was the general consensus that they can look into it further, but the City will not approve anything or committing to anything until an official plan is presented with a formal request.

b. High School Baseball Agreement with Sidney Public Schools

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin provided the committee with the previous agreement with Sidney Public Schools and the Richland County Baseball Agreement.

Alderman DiFonzo asked if the committee agreed that any changes should be made under the SPS agreement, and it was agreed it should. Alderman DiFonzo stated under item 7 for the SPS agreement, the high school baseball in Moose Park will need to be added. He further stated he feels the City should not be involved in settling any disputes with schedule or field use and Alderwoman Christensen agreed. AD Lee stated it is how they work within the softball leagues for South Meadow. Alderwoman Godfrey stated under number 7 of conditions required for the RC Baseball, it could be added to work with the SPS on scheduling and conflicts must be resolved within themselves. Alderwoman Christensen stated she would like to see that also added into the

SPS contract. AD Lee stated there are rules in place that legion cannot start before the high school program has ended, but he will look into that further. Alderman DiFonzo stated the only way to find out how all the particulars will work between legion and high school is to see what happens this year.

Alderman DiFonzo stated he did see anything further in the agreements that needed amended from the current contract with SPS Schools. AD Lee asked Parks Superintendent if the maintenance requirements will be the same as they have for Soft Meadow and softball, and she stated yes. He asked if there are issues with the fields, who does he talk to and PWD Hintz stated they would need to contact either himself or Parks Superintendent Ridl. Parks Superintendent Ridl stated some items, such as irrigation, electrical falls under the City to do the repairs or oversee. AD Lee stated he will do a walk-through prior to the season and PWD Hintz stated the City will participate.

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated after completing the child abuse prevention seminar this morning, in the future the Committee will need to look at adding to all park use agreements language added for requiring the programs to do background checks on coaches and volunteers and language on requiring a policy for reporting any incidents. She stated the school already has these policies in place.

PWD Hintz asked if they plan to use the lights and AD Lee stated they will and PWD Hintz stated it is expensive to use and to keep that in mind. AD Lee stated if the expense is high, the school can help pay for that.

Alderman DiFonzo made a motion to recommend adding the high school baseball program in moose park and the additional requirement that the scheduling must be handled between SPS and RC Baseball, including any conflicts and to add the check list and contact list to the agreement that other agreements have.

Motion made by DiFonzo, Seconded by Christensen.

Voting Yea: DiFonzo, Godfrey, Christensen

c. Hockey Ice Rink new location (was located in Quilling's Park)

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated the permanent location was brought up to Mayor Norby to be added to the next Park and Recreation Committee agenda.

Mr. Lee stated he understands both sides, as it is an eye sore but it is extremely difficult to take it down and put it up. He stated he also has a concern that it will not stay in good shape if it is up permanently.

Motion was made to table this until there is a formal request and plan presented.

Motion made by DiFonzo, Seconded by Christensen.

Voting Yea: DiFonzo, Godfrey, Christensen

Meeting was adjourned: 11:31am