

MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

May 20, 2009

The Municipal Golf Course Advisory Board held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 20, 2009, at 3:00 p.m. in the Community Services conference room. Board members present were Phil Gage, Sherri Bowden, Claude Clifton, Petty Hunter, Lawayne Harris, Charles Maciel, and Melvin Martin. Community Services staff present were Mike Hall, Director; Tony Neitzler, Asst. Director; Kelly Messer, Legal Department; Dave Hand, and Linda Hansen, Executive Secretary.

Chair, Phil Gage called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Discussion and possible recommendation on fees and rates from the rates sub-committee: Phil Gage asked the sub-committee to give a report. Claude stated that they meet with Dave Hand. The rates have not been increased in six years. In comparing to similar courses, the new rates were well in line. The committee recommends the adoption of the new rates. Lawayne Harris suggested a 20% increase in Junior/Senior rates instead of the 25% rate increase. Lawayne stated that he felt that since we were trying to attract more players, the 20% increase would help in attracting more of the Junior/Senior age group. Charles feels that the minimal rate increase would not deter anyone from playing. Melvin Martin made a motion to accept proposed fees, Claude Clifton seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion passed.

Discussion and possible recommendation on irrigation system improvements: Phil stated that the greens are about the best that he has seen since they were redone about six years ago. The fairways need a lot of attention; there are a lot of broken pipes and sprinkler heads. Phil asked Mike to give the board an update on repairs. Mike stated that we hired Rick Keller a few years ago. We presented an item to the bond committee in 2006 about replacing the irrigation system. The bond committee did not approve the item. At that time, we decided to hire Rick Keller to develop a plan to phase in the irrigation system. He set up a three phase process: Phase I would be to replace all of the field controllers on the golf course and the master controller; Phase II would be to replace the pump system; Phase III would be to replace all of the heads on all of the piping. In the design, he did increase the watering of the fairway. With that plan a request was submitted for Certificate of Obligation funding. The City Council approved \$130,000 towards the first phase of the project. We can now move forward. Mike suggested that we hire Rick Keller to develop the plans and specifications for Phase I and Phase II and go out to bid to see what type of bids will be received. Phase III would cost around \$900 thousand to \$1 million to complete the remaining projects. Turn around time would probably be the end of summer before we could start on replacing the controllers. The cost for his services would be about \$10,000 to prepare the plans and about \$1,500 for travel expenses. Charles Maciel made a motion to proceed with the irrigation improvements, Sherri Bowden second the motion. With all in favor the motion passed.

Discussion and possible recommendation concerning increasing tournaments held at Maxwell: Phil stated that with the improvements he feels that the improved course will draw more tournaments. Dave stated that we have several charity events scheduled. The difficulty in competing with the larger tournaments, there is already a history of using another course. Phil suggests that we target non-profit groups. Dave feels that a good marketing strategy would be offering the lower cost and the improved course. A solicitation letter could be sent to the different charities and organizations that may be interested in holding a tournament.

Phil asked if there was a plan to reopen the grill. Dave stated that there was no plan to open the grill at this time; he feels that it would not be cost efficient to bring the building up to code.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.