



City of Sidney, MT
Park and Recreation Committee Meeting 7-12-23
July 12, 2023 5:15 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: 713 080 5898 Passcode: 4332809

Call: 1-346-248-7799

Council Members Present: DiFonzo, Godfrey and Christensen

Others Present: Mayor Norby, Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin, PWD Hintz and Randy Iverson

1. New Business

a. Pickleball

PWD Hintz stated he has been looking into installing pickleball courts since it was requested at the City Council meeting. He stated there is the old basketball court in Kling Park that is need of replacement and he is proposing installing concrete to rehab the court and install two pickleball courts in the middle of the basketball court. He stated another location for the pickleball courts would be at the tennis courts, but with the current stated of them, the City does not have the funding to completely rehab the tennis court. He stated he has contacted Sport Court for covering the basketball court and it can be done for around \$45,000-\$65,000. He stated the City crew could do the concrete work and then purchase the Sport Court, that has an extensive lifetime and is better for the players than asphalt or concrete, with wheeled pickleball nets to pull out onto the court. Alderwoman Christensen asked if we would need to install a shed to store the nets and PWD Hintz stated they could just be rolled off to the side of court if basketball is being played. Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin this would include installing 7-8 parking spots.

Mr. Iverson stated he talked to Blinda Larson, who was actively involved in the Park and Rec Committee, who said there was grant funding for the tennis courts. Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated Parks Superintendent is pursuing grants for the tennis courts and PWD Hintz stated it will cost upwards of \$200,000 to rehab the tennis courts as they need to be torn completely out and redone. Mr. Iverson stated if there is grant funding, local funding and the City maybe the tennis courts can be redone sooner. He stated instead of putting the money into the Kling Park court to also redo the Tennis Courts in the future, make a plan for redoing the Tennis Court and for funding and wait for rehabbing it for pickleball, as the Tennis Courts need to be redone anyway. He stated he and the other pickleball players could assist in getting community support for redoing the Tennis Courts and installing the pickleball courts there.

Alderman DiFonzo stated he agreed in waiting and doing the Tennis Courts, as it is a better location, the Schools would be able to use the courts, and parking will be better. He stated if the Tennis Courts are turning into a safety hazard they should be redone sooner rather than later.

Motion was made to recommend to the City Council to rehab the tennis courts and include pickleball by continuing to save money, get grant funding and attempt to get local contributions and involvement.

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

b. Lap Swimming

Alderwoman Godfrey stated she received a request form Ryan Payne to have lap swimming at the Svarre Pool, which would include exclusive time at the pool and installing the infrastructure for it. Infrastructure would include painted lines, ropes and backstroke markers. Mr. Iverson stated with it being a 50-meter pool, the lines are painted on the pool but they stop about halfway where the dock is installed for swim meets. He stated they currently have one end of the pool for lap swim and the other end be the water aerobics, but the lap swimming does not follow the lines painted. He stated with the dock in question still, to appropriately do as he is requesting, putting the permanent dock in would be what is necessary. Alderwoman Christensen asked how many other people lap swim and Mr. Iverson stated there is around 4-6 people and PWD Hintz agreed. PWD Hintz stated there is up to a dozen who do the water aerobics.

Alderman DiFonzo stated he feels without cost estimates it is hard to move forward on. Alderwoman Christensen stated she agrees and that this is something to keep in mind for future projects at the pool. Mr. Iverson stated he can get more information on lap swimming also.

Motion was made to table exclusive lap swimming at the Svarre Pool until more information is provided to the Park and Recreation Committee.

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

c. Parks and Pool Preliminary Budget

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin presented the Parks and Recreation Committee with the proposed Parks and Pool budget, recommending taking the money from the Parks budget for the pickle ball to a transfer to the Tennis Court CIP and not paying \$75,000 to blast and paint the pool and instead put that money into a new Pool CIP account for the pool rehab, per the previous conversations.

PWD Hintz stated it was last painted in 2017 and it is flaking off. He stated the paint has now changed and it doesn't adhere to existing paint as well. He stated it has never been blasted to bare concrete and repainted. Mr. Iverson agreed the paint is flaking off, but he would like to see the money saved for another fiscal year.

Motion was made to recommend approval with the Parks and Pool preliminary budget with the changes of taking the money from the Parks budget for the pickle ball to a transfer to the Tennis Court CIP and not paying \$75,000 to blast and paint the pool and instead put that money into a new Pool CIP account for the pool rehab.

Motion made by Christensen, Seconded by Godfrey.

Voting Yea: DiFonzo, Godfrey, Christensen

Adjourned: 5:55pm.