

COUNTY OF CURRY)
CITY OF CLOVIS) ss.

The Parks, Recreation & Beautification Committee met in regular session at 5:30 p.m., Monday, February 28, 2022 in the North Annex, Clovis-Carver Library, 701 N. Main in full conformity with the laws of the State of New Mexico and the ordinances and resolutions of said city with the following members present:

Commissioner Gary Elliott, District 2
Commissioner James Burns, District 1
Commissioner Megan Palla, District 4
Commissioner Fidel Madrid, Chairman, District 3
Joyce Gates, County resident
Jamaal Williams, District 2
Gilbert Salguero, District 3
Lisa Pellegrino-Spear, District 1
Clyde Davis, Organization utilizing parks (virtual)
Thomas Martin, District 4 (virtual)

EX-OFFICIO PRESENT:

Justin Howalt, City Manager
Russell Hooper, Parks & Recreation Director

ALSO PRESENT:

Claire Burroughes, Assistant City Manager
Vicki Reyes, Assistant City Clerk
Members of the public

Commissioner Madrid called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

Agenda Item No. 3 – Approval of minutes of January 24, 2022

Commissioner Palla made a motion to approve the minutes of January 24, 2022 as presented; Commissioner Burns seconded the motion, which passed by acclamation.

Agenda Item No. 4 – Discussion and recommendation regarding the NHP Motor Speedway

Mr. Howalt advised he and Attorney Morris have come up with a simple lease agreement. The current agreement is a concession agreement that discusses the fact that any proceeds earned have to go back into the facility itself. The City of Clovis has other properties that they lease and those individuals are more inclined to make the lease work for themselves. Attorney Morris spoke with the Hobbs city attorney who have lease agreements throughout their community. Attorney Morris combined items from the City of Clovis and the City of Hobbs. They would charge x amount of dollars for lease of the land and then they could do what they needed to do. They talk about how lucrative the business could be and this would give them the ability to make this work or not.

They currently had the potential to use a loader that belonged to the airport. The city would

return the loader as is and they would be responsible for maintaining it. They would also return the load grader as is. They have had those conversations and they were interested. They will need to get insurance in place and there will not be the potential for earnings at the start. It would be a long-term lease, possibly 15 years and then the potential to extend. They would have the potential to get loans from a different financial institution instead of the city of clovis being that financial institution.

Mr. Shawn Vilandry advised changing the lease frees them up. One of their biggest issues is getting volunteers, but they would be able to pay people to come out with this. Commissioner Palla asked if there was an old agreement with the lights. She asked where that stands. Mr. Howalt advised that would be taken into consideration with the evaluation of rent. Commissioner Pall asked about the bleachers. Mr. Howalt advised they were still working on the bleachers and have 6 years to claim them through the insurance. Mr. Vilandry advised they have a car track and motocross track and the bleachers are on the car track.

Ms. Pellegrino-Spear asked if the field would be repaired. Mr. Vilandry advised heavy equipment is expensive so they will rent items. They had a convenient agreement with using the airports equipment. The loader is a big part of moving dirt. Ms. Pellegrino-Spear asked about the 99-year lease and if they change it to a 15-year lease does it have to be an addendum. Mr. Howalt advised they were in compliance with the procurement law and can do this with the renewals.

Agenda Item No. 5 – Discussion and recommendation regarding the Outdoor Recreation Trails+ Grant

Ms. Burroughes advised the grant application has just opened and they would like to create recreational bike trails at Ned Houk Park. She doesn't know cost, but they would like to submit an application for funds.

Commissioner Burns asked why they closed the gate on the south side of the park. Mr. Howalt advised there was a gate on CR 17. Commissioner Burns advised he had a citizen ask. Ms. Burroughes advised it was a control issue, but they can look into it. Commissioner Burns advised trucks can drive through there from the state highway. Ms. Burroughes advised they couldn't get into the trail head. Mr. Hooper advised the gates on CR 17 is more for maintenance and not public access. Commissioner Burns advised it was at one time. He advised they should give access to citizens to use for ATV's. Mr. Howalt advised the owners of the ATV's have to obey all of the ATV rules and it is something they can look into.

Ms. Pellegrino-Spear asked if they could request a phased approach for the Liebelt Trails. Mr. Howalt advised they were waiting to hear back on their grant application. Ms. Burroughes advised the amount of funding received from the state was \$7 million.

Commissioner Madrid made a motion to move forward with the application; Ms. Pellegrino-Spear seconded the motion, which passed by acclamation.

Agenda Item No. 6 – Updates on parks projects

New Parks Superintendent

John Walton is the new superintendent and they are now looking for a replacement for his position.

New Recreation Administrator

They have hired a person for the Recreation Administrator who has a bachelor's degree in Recreation that is currently living in Houston. He should start next month.

Bleachers at Roy Walker

With the current colors of the walls, Mr. Hooper would like to go with dark blue so they won't have to repaint the walls.

Capital outlay funding for playground equipment

Capital Outlay was approved for \$375,000 for three playgrounds. They completed Dennis Chavez which was right at \$100,000.

Pickleball Update

Commissioner Elliott asked if they could look at the old tennis courts next to the golf course for a pickleball court. Mr. Howalt advised the current condition of the old tennis courts are in worse shape than the ones at Hillcrest Park. They wouldn't rule that out though and could look at it in the future.

For the good of the order

Papi Thornton Museum

Ms. Burroughes advised she spoke with Lance Pyle who advised Curry County received \$200,000 for the museum for upgrades. They have another project they are working on at the fairgrounds that is coming in over budget so they hoped to move forward after the county fair.

Ms. Burroughes advised the City of Clovis was not successful with the T-mobile grant last year. They have applied for funding again for an outdoor movie screen to put at Hillcrest Park.

Mr. Williams advised Clovis Western Little League is up and running. April 2nd is opening ceremonies and this is their 69th year. They can sign up at cloviswesternlittleleague.com and there will be tryouts at Beachum Field this Saturday. They are also looking for community sponsors.

Ms. Burroughes advised the Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be April 16th at Guy Leeder Softball Field.

Commissioner Madrid advised the next meeting would be at 5:30 p.m., Monday, March 21.

Agenda Item No. 8 – Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the commission the meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.