

## **PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Tuesday March 15, 2022 5:30pm

Carthage City Hall, Council Chambers

Public Services Committee Members Present: Ceri Otero, Juan Topete, Mike Daugherty, Seth Thompson

Members Absent: N/A

Staff Present: Mark Peterson, Tom Short, Greg Dagnan, Taylor Jones

Non-Members: Jonathan Roberts, Abi Almandinger, Bren Flanagan

**Councilman Topete called meeting to order at 5:30 pm.**

### **Old Business**

1. Consider and approve minutes from the previous meeting.

**Councilman Daugherty made a motion to approve minutes from February's meeting.**

**Motion Passed Unanimously**

### **New Business**

1. Consider and Discuss Contract for Management of Municipal Pool by the YMCA.
  - Mr. Peterson started by stating that the YMCA has done a great job managing the pool. States that the only change in the proposed contract is increasing the budget from \$60,000 to \$75,000 due to increased wages for staff, and increased pricing on chemicals for the pool. Fee for renting the pool for parties will also change from \$150 to \$200. He recommends continuing the agreement with the YMCA.
  - Councilman Thompson asked if there was anything not going well with the pool/pool management. Mr. Peterson replied by restating the YMCA has done a great job managing the pool. There is an increased need to accommodate competitive swim, which will be coordinated by Mr. Roberts, and Mr. Peterson will ensure they have the proper insurance.
  - Mr. Roberts (Executive Director, Fair Acres Family YMCA) says the state of the pool infrastructure (pool, pool pump, well, etc.) is the biggest obstacle they are facing. He

believes the previous year was a strong year for business because they were one of the only outdoor activities still open due to COVID. He believes this year's business may not be as strong because many outdoor activities will reopen as usual. He stated some ideas about upgrades to the pool that could potentially bring in more traffic. He also emphasized the importance of pools for the youth in the community.

- Mr. Short asked if the increased budget for the pool would require a budgetary adjustment for the department. Mr. Peterson stated that it would not.
- Councilman Otero warns that a 25% increase in their budget could lead to others asking for similar increases, though she agrees with the reasoning.

**Mike Daugherty motioned to accept the contract**

**Motion Passed Unanimously**

2. Consider and Discuss Lease Agreement for the Skating Pavilion with Jason and Pam Graff.

- Mr. Peterson states the agreement is the same as previous years, except that the tenant has changed hours of operation (they will only be open on Friday and Saturday nights). In 2020, tenants requested \$25,000 in repairs to the facility, and because it was not feasible to invest this much in the structure, it was agreed that they would not pay rent. In exchange, tenants would pay for the cost of minor repairs as they come up. This part of the agreement has not changed.
- Councilman Otero asked if there is oversight/clear documentation for the process of the tenants keeping the building maintained. Mr. Peterson says that Brian Bradley (Parks Superintendent) checks on building periodically to ensure proper maintenance is being carried out.

**Councilman Daugherty motions to accept contract.**

**Motion Passed Unanimously**

3. Consider and Discuss Agreement with Carthage Youth Baseball.

- Mr. Peterson stated that this is a standard contract from previous years, with primary change being that we no longer give them \$2000 for their utility budget, and that the city takes over the management of their utilities. At the request of the baseball league, all verbiage related to gender has also been removed. He also states that the contract for Carthage Youth Baseball and Carthage Youth Softball are identical.

- Mr. Peterson expresses interest in embracing the growing demand from the community for field use. He believes that the new Civic Rec Software (approximately a month away from going into place) will increase transparency and access to the field space, and make the process much less complicated for all parties involved.

**Councilman Topete motioned to accept both the contract for Carthage Youth Baseball and the contract for Carthage Youth Softball.**

**Motion Passed Unanimously**

4. Consider and Discuss Agreement with Carthage Youth Softball.

**Councilman Topete motioned to accept both the contract for Carthage Youth Baseball and the contract for Carthage Youth Softball.**

**Motion Passed Unanimously**

5. Consider and Discuss Electric Scooter Rental RFP Submissions.

- Mr. Peterson states that RFP went to five different companies, and we only received one proposal (Lime). He states that other businesses were not interested due business models not lining up with their anticipated risk.
- Mr. Peterson states that Lime has done a very good job with answering all questions, and had a very good trial run with the city. He states that their fee structure proposal is an annual fee of \$1250, as well as 5 cents/ride (11000-12000 rides expected annually). Mr. Peterson has spoken with the market leader at Lime and voiced concern about the 5 cents per ride being on the low side, that he thought that fee structure would only be in place for the trial run. Received verbal approval that we could get at least 15 cents per ride (Lime is willing to negotiate). Mr. Peterson suggests that we accept their offer, and negotiate a better rate per ride.
- Councilman Daugherty voices support for the project as a good service for the community. Councilman Topete echoes this sentiment, asks if the city can bring in more scooters for special events like Maple Leaf. Mr. Peterson says that can and will happen.
- Councilman Thompson would like to know about future developments with Lime, such as expanding the “geomap” so that the scooters may be more widely accessible. Mr. Peterson says that Lime would like to be available to the entire city. Council discusses possible expansions in appropriate areas so that Lime could become another

form of transportation, but not allow it to go citywide for safety and compliance issues.

**Councilman Daugherty motioned to accept agreement.**

**Motion Passed Unanimously.**

6. Consider and Discuss Lightspeed POS Agreement for Golf Course.
  - Mr. Peterson states that current POS provider, Teesnap, has sold their business, and the system no longer works efficiently for what they need. Through research on different software, he was able to narrow it down to Lightspeed being the optimal choice for their new POS software. Mr. Peterson already signed this agreement as an operational cost. He would like to know if this contract needs to be signed by the mayor, says he encourages this and that it would not be a problem.
  - Mr. Dagnan states that this came up because the city charter states that all contracts must be signed by the mayor, says contract could potentially be disputed in the future without mayor signature.
  - Councilman Daugherty questions if the mayor needs to sign every single contract, even if it is something operational such as this one. Mr. Short restates that the city charter does require mayor signature for all contracts.

**Councilman Daugherty motioned to send contract to full council for mayor signature.**

**Motion Passed Unanimously**

### **Staff Reports**

- Tom Short opened discussion about bike lanes. Councilman Daugherty states that original agreement from 2015 bike lane Master Plan was not carried out properly, thinks plan should be abandoned. He states that cyclists have a legal right to use their bikes on the road, so they do not really need a bike lane. Councilman Topete would like a reevaluation of where bike lanes might actually make sense, and that they can help bring awareness to cyclists for safety. Mr. Peterson states that current Parks Master Plan has minimal language about bike lanes because public feedback was mostly negative about them.

- Mr. Peterson wanted to call out Chanti Beckham for her exceptional work in the community garden and the farmer's market. He says she is going above and beyond to create accessibility, and attract vendors. He says they were currently considering plans to put a second community garden in Carter Park, but final decisions will depend on how Carter Park is restructured in a future development. He believes the work Chanti is doing is adding to and promoting a healthier lifestyle for community members.
- Mr. Peterson also wanted to discuss beautification efforts at the roundabout. He says the Parks Department will be responsible for landscaping and maintenance. Councilman Daugherty asked about the potential for a car to hit the statue that is going in the middle. Mr. Peterson states that there is landscaping and a barrier that will likely prevent a car from ever making it to the statue, but it still meets MODOT safety standards for destructibility. Mr. Peterson recommends that we fund landscaping of the roundabout with use tax.
- Mr. Peterson wanted to give accolades to Councilman Topete, who is not running for reelection to the city council, and to wish him good luck on his post-council endeavors.
- Mr. Peterson also stated that he has hired a new Administrative Assistant for the Parks Department, Taylor Jones.

**Mike Daugherty made a motion to adjourn.**

**Motion Passed**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:31 pm.**