

**THE CITY OF SAN ANGELO, TEXAS
MINUTE RECORD OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
PARK COMMISSION**

Following notice and publication, the *Park Commission* convened in a regular meeting at **2:00 p.m.**, on **Wednesday, May 24, 2023**, in the Conference Room, Santa Fe Crossing, 702 S. Chadbourne St., San Angelo, Texas.

Commissioners present were Ms. Bitsy Stone, Ms. Heidi Brooks and Ms. Allison Watkins.

Staff present was Mr. Carl White, Mr. Roger Havlak, Mr. Mario De La O, and minutes were recorded by Barbara Stallworth.

I. OPEN SESSION (2:00) P.M.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Stone called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

No Comments.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

1. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING THE NOVEMBER 22, 2022 MEETING MINUTES.

Ms. Stone motioned to accept minutes as presented. Second by Ms. Watkins; minutes passed unanimously.

III. REGULAR AGENDA/PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT

2. CALL FOR NOMINATIONS, AND SELECTION OF A NOMINATION, TO ELECT A CHAIRPERSON FOR THE PARK COMMISSION. Ms. Stone opened the floor for nominations to elect a chairperson for the Park Commission. Ms. Stone nominated Allison Watkins. Ms. Seconded by, Ms. Brooks; motion passed unanimously.

3. UPDATE FROM TWO PRO ON GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE AND FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS. Chris Gebauer introduced himself to the board. Mr. Gebauer explained that since he has been working with the Santa Fe Golf Course, he has obtained some new equipment and has continued to work to refurbish or replace some needed equipment. He stated that he has met with Mr. Havlak, Mr. De La O and Mr. White and has come up with a plan on fertilization and aeration that is needed in areas to improve the grounds. He stated that his main focus are to get the greens and tee boxes back to the condition they need to be in. Mr. Gebauer stated that he has made some improvements such as, trash cans, signs, benches, flags, club house updates, and new equipment as well as security cameras. He mentioned that he is fully staffed and will look to hire one more person in his efforts to make further improvements. He mentioned that he is slowly replacing the different types of sprinkler heads and adjusting them to improve the effects of watering. Ms. Watkins thanked Mr. Gebauer for all of the work he has done to this point at the golf course and expressed that she is looking forward to seeing more.

4. UPDATE ON SANTA FE PARK TREE MAINTENANCE AND IRRIGATION. Mr. Havlak showed the board a map and the layout of the Santa Fe Golf Course. Mr. Havlak discussed the history of the irrigation and tree maintenance at the golf course and the effects of the drought throughout the years. He showed a map that detailed the irrigational properties of the area that would include drip systems and localized bubblers. Mr. Havlak stated that any of the trees not receiving water from either of those types of systems, will continue to be watered by hand from a tank truck. Mr. Havlak described the methods the Parks Department is using to measure the amount of water we are using to irrigate the trees versus the other areas that get irrigated by Two Pro. Mr. Havlak explained that Two Pro will be charged for the watering usage as a whole. With our monitoring system we use, we are able to give the amount of water we used for tree maintenance and reimburse Two Pro for these costs. Mr. Havlak stated that we have planted several new trees and unfortunately we have had to replace a couple but overall we have had continued success with tree maintenance in this area. He detailed what types of trees that have been planted and Ms. Brooks asked if we needed to use trees that were more drought resistant. Mr. Havlak explained that the Pecan trees and others planted has been successful based mainly on the maintenance but also because of the type of soil we have in that area. Mr. Havlak expressed that very few trees have been lost. Mr. Havlak showed some areas that may need some additional bubblers. Ms. Watkins asked if Two Pro was to start watering fairways in the future would that result in those areas needing less attention by us. Mr. Havlak confirmed that it would. Mr. Havlak explained what is needed for updating the irrigation system and detailed that amount of work that would be and a better solution would be to start over with a new system. Ms. Stone asked about the cost of a new system, which Mr. Havlak explained details of the system that would be installed and it would cost approximately \$40,000.00 an acre. Mr. Havlak and Mr. De La O explained that the current system used is operable but is labor intensive. Mr. Havlak continued to explain that there is not a design in place for a new

system at this time due the cost of the system as well as the cost required to water the area in discussion. It was discussed that in order to water 1 inch per week for 1 month at the current water process, it would be approximately \$26,000.00. Ms. Brooks commented on the feasibility to continue to water the whole area and a long range plan for the Golf Course. Ms. Brooks also asked for details of the original deed of the property, which Mr. White shared with her. Ms. Brooks gave ideas on ways to possibility bring more revenue to this location and expressed that business opportunities are available for this location. Mr. White discussed some ideas for revenue as well. Mr. Gebauer stated that he appreciates the ideas, but having a 9-hole golf course in the middle of town is an asset to the city and he feels that if we build on what we already have and he can get the greens and tee boxes in the condition he wants them to be then revenue will improve greatly. Mr. Gebrauer answered Ms. Brooks's questions about his pricing for golfing and stated he may have up to 80 people a week come to golf the course. Mr. Gebauer expressed that he is confident he will see some improvements of the greens by fall.

5. **UPDATE ON KIDS KINGDOM PARK PLAYGROUND CONDITIONS AND FUTURE REPLACEMENT.** Mr. White discussed the age of the playground and the large community effort the initial build was. Mr. White stated that about a year ago an assessment was completed by Leathers & Associates and determined that replacement of equipment will be needed within the next 2-3 years. He shared with the cost of the replacement to be at least \$600,000.00. Mr. White spoke on the funding efforts and mentioned that other projects will need to be completed before San Angelo Area foundation can assist in managing funds. Mr. Brooks asked if the Junior League has been contacted for interest. Mr. White stated they have been informed and discussed other forms of possibly fundraising efforts for future consideration. Ms. Brooks gave ideas on getting more volunteers to assist. Mr. Havlak discussed some of the surrounding areas of Kids Kingdom that have open park area with irrigated trees.
6. **CONSIDER FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.** Mr. White suggested we have a meeting within a couple of months to discuss updates on Two Pro and to discuss the current lease agreement. Mr. Havlak asked that if any items come to mind later to please contact him to get it put on the agenda to review.

IV. **ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Watkins adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

Approved: Allison Schway

Date: 8-8-23