

MINUTES OF HARRISVILLE CITY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, February 11, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers
363 West Independence Blvd
Harrisville, Utah 84404

Present: Mayor Bruce Richins, Council Member Michelle Tait, Council Member Jeff Pearce, Council Member Grover Wilhelmsen, Council Member Jennifer Jensen. [Council Member Paula Knighton is excused]

Staff: Bill Morris, City Administrator, Jennie Knight, City Recorder, Bryan Fife, Recreation Director.

Visitors: Ruth Pearce, Richard Hendrix, Heidi Mead, Justin Olson, Kenny Loveland, Jade Sewell, Jason Sewell, Michelle Hoffman, Jeremy Tycz, Justin Northup, Kathy Saunders, Nathan Saunders, Michael Saunders, Katie Beecher, Courtney Barrow, Ky Kartchner, Kaden Kartchner.

7:00 P.M. CITY COUNCIL MEETING

1. Call to Order.

Mayor Richins called the meeting to order and welcomed all visitors. He excused Council Member Knighton.

2. Opening Ceremony.

Council Member Tait led the pledge of allegiance and conducted the opening ceremony.

3. Consent Items.

- a. Approve the minutes of January 28, 2014 as presented.

Mayor Richins made a correction to the last page of the minutes, correcting the acronym for ULCT.

MOTION: Council Member Tait motioned to approve the minutes of January 28, 2014 with the correction. Council Member Pearce seconded the motion. All Council Members voted aye. Motion passed.

4. Business Items.

a. Local Officials Day at the Legislature

Mayor Richins turned the time over to Council Member Tait for a review of the local official's day at the legislature. Council Member Tait thanked resident Kathy Saunders who assisted with the tour having been there in the past. The youth attended a mock debate about a legislative bill. This was a wonderful experience for the youth to attend and see how the legislative session works. She asked a few youth city council members in attendance to share their experience and favorite parts of the day.

Youth City Council Member Courtney Barrow said her favorite part of the experience was the legislative debate. She enjoyed the interesting opinions that were expressed and shared through the discussion.

Youth City Council Member Ky Kartchner reported he enjoyed the debate as well. He indicated this debate was held at the Daughters of Utah Pioneer Museum about an issue that was relatable for the youth. He also enjoyed the good food and listening to the inspirational speaker

who is missing a leg but achieved his goal of becoming an NCAA champion in wrestling. This speaker also wrote a book titled “Unstoppable”.

Youth City Council Member Kaden Kartchner expressed his favorite part was the debate also. He appreciated the strong emotions the participants expressed and would have enjoyed participating in this debate. He expressed his desire for the debates to be open for public input. His hope is they will continue these debates in the future. He agreed the motivational speaker was very good and inspiring.

Mayor Richins said they will likely continue the debates because of the success in the last few years.

Youth City Council Member Katie Beecher reported her favorite part was Anthony Robles the inspirational speaker. She informed Council the debate was on a bill the legislators are possibly going to look at.

Youth City Council Member Michael Saunders concurred the inspirational speaker was very interesting. He explained how Anthony Robles was born with only one leg and without a hip socket so there was very little to work with for a prosthetic. He enjoyed his experience attending and thanked Council for the opportunity to attend.

Youth City Council Member Nathan Saunders reported the inspirational speaker was his favorite part of the experience. His story was very inspiring and motivating to be “Unstoppable” in his own life. Anthony Robles overcame a lot of challenges to become the National Wrestling Champion. He shared Anthony’s experience where no programs wanted to accept him because of his disability, but he convinced a coach to let him wrestle. Anthony spent the first year losing most of his matches and realized he had to put in extra effort so he could compete against other wrestlers. Mr. Saunders also expressed his interest in the debate. His grandfather served as a state senator and he appreciated learning what he would have done during his time serving as a legislator. He thanked Council for this opportunity.

Kathy Saunders thanked Council for allowing the kids to have this opportunity.

b. Recreation Discussion

Mayor Richins turned the time over to Recreation Director Bryan Fife for this discussion.

1. Frisbee Golf Course

Bryan Fife said the option of putting together a Frisbee golf course was talked about a year and a half ago and he hoped to follow up with putting together and sharing some ideas. He introduced Council to Jade Sewell who is the owner of Ridgeline Designs and is very familiar with disc golf.

Mr. Sewell passed around some information including a park design for a proposed disc golf course at Harrisville Main Park. He gave an overview of where the holes will be placed. He has been strategizing with Bryan Fife on where to put each of the disc golf holes. They have specifically been designed away from the playground, starting with the first hole at the parking lot. He explained each hole and the associated direction of play.

Council Member Tait asked for a brief explanation of what this sport is from the basic level.

Mr. Sewell explained this is the fastest growing sport in the country right now with 300 courses being put in each year. The course is designed with baskets that catch discs of all different weights and plastics. Utah is falling behind this trend with only 12 courses and some are not functioning well. There are only two courses in Weber County, one in Riverdale and a 5 basket course at the Ogden ATC. The courses in Moab and Solitude are among some of the top ranking courses in the country. This is a great sporting activity and not necessarily a seasonal sport.

Bryan Fife introduced phase one that will include nine holes on the west side of the park.

Council Member Tait asked if these baskets are removable. Bryan Fife confirmed these are removable. Phase two includes nine more holes on the east side of the park. The largest portion monetarily will be addressing the creek crossing of phase one. He is currently working

with the city engineer and Gene Bingham, Public Works Director, to figure out a solution to this. Installing a bridge is most likely the most environmentally and economic way to address this. A bridge will be approximately \$3000 of the cost of phase one.

Mr. Sewell explained there are different variations of each hole locations as well. He planned for the launch pads to be placed in specific areas for each hole. Mayor and Council gave discussion on the opportunities for service with this project to save money, by including residents who have an interest in their own community.

Bryan Fife also pointed out an opportunity for saving on the park benches. The proposal includes installation for park benches but he indicated there are two unused benches available at the splash pad.

Bryan Fife indicated he would most likely use Wright Signs for the signage. They provided the signs for the splash pad. Signs would include park rules, etiquette and the disc golf rules of play. They will install a sign showing the layout of the course and each hole will display another plaque showing the direction of play.

Council Member Tait asked how the discs will be provided for play. Bryan Fife responded many avid players have their own discs. This proposal includes 10 starter kits. The city could implement a rental policy for the starter kits for those who would like to try out the sport before they purchase their own equipment. Mr. Sewell said the discs are very affordable. He also pointed out the course can be played with affordable plastic Frisbees from the local dollar store as well. Mayor and Council gave discussion about the length of time it takes to participate in an entire round. A full eighteen hole course would likely take around an hour and a half. We have a great opportunity with the diversity our park offers. There is the potential of having leagues and with an eighteen hole course two 9 hole scrambles could be run at the same time.

Council Member Tait took a quick poll from the youth in attendance and received positive feedback regarding the installation of a course. This is even being implemented into the school physical education curriculum.

Mr. Sewell gave a quick history of how he was introduced to the sport and informed Council how smoothly the course flows with little to no backup on the holes.

Council Member Tait inquired as to how much is included in the maintenance program. Bryan Fife responded the maintenance of the lawns would be consistent with mowing around trees, not much more work for staff. He also informed Council these courses have a tendency to reduce crime rates in their areas because of the amount of use they receive. Littering is sometimes a problem but can be addressed by installing waste receptacles just like regular golf courses offer.

Bill Morris reminded Council of the approximate \$5400 from the RAMP grant the city receives each year. He suggested starting with the nine hole course and expanding in the future. This would be a great use of the grant funds. Bryan Fife informed Council there are available funds in the park impact fees that could also be used to fund this project.

Council Member Tait inquired how long the installation will take. Bryan Fife said it will be dependent on weather. He would hope to have it all in place before Heritage Days. There are also a few Frisbee golf clubs around that would be willing to help with the installation.

Phase two would not be available during the baseball/softball season. Although, the placement of phase two would allow for night games because of the close proximity to the walking path lighting. Mr. Sewell reminded Council this is a year-long sport not seasonal. Players are willing to play during all weather conditions.

Council Member Tait asked if this would be a high quality course. Mayor and Council gave discussion on the placement of the phases and how each offers a different perspective on the course. Council Member Tait asked which phase would be preferable if only one phase is implemented. Council Member Jensen said that phase one is more aesthetically appealing. Bill Morris said this area is an underutilized space in the park. Mr. Sewell mentioned he intentionally placed one hole by the road for visibility reasons, so players are visible while teeing

off from that particular hole. Council Member Wilhelmsen suggested placing a practice hole up by the splash pad, giving residents an opportunity to enjoy practicing in that area. Mayor and Council agreed this would be a good practice area and allow for more participation. Bryan Fife pointed out the two phasing options. Bill Morris suggested Council authorize staff to move forward with this project with the idea of funding the first phase with the RAMP grant. Clarification was made of the total cost of phase one at \$10,300. Mayor and Council thanked Jade Sewell for his time spent on this presentation.

2. Heritage Days Baseball/Softball Tournament

Based on input received from Council, Bryan Fife introduced a proposal for the “North League Championship” to be held in conjunction with Heritage Days. This tournament would be for grades 4-9 and involve any city that’s interested in participating. He recommended giving out trophies for the 1st and 2nd place champions. He would take the top two teams from the season and hold a winner’s tournament. The cost would be around \$1,800. He asked whether this would be included in the recreation or Heritage Days budget. Mayor Richins indicated he would prefer this be listed under the Heritage Days budget.

Bryan Fife informed Council he put out a feeler last year but did not receive favorable feedback. He said other recreation directors in the area collect their equipment at the end of the season and move on to the next sport. The fact that Heritage Days is in August is possibly too long to wait for an end of season tournament.

Council Member Jensen suggested opening this tournament up to anyone that wanted to sign up. The city could charge for signing up competition teams, so instead of costing money, it would pay for itself. She suggested any age group be able to sign-up and participate and interest for a tournament being held at a later date could be measured throughout the regular season. Bryan Fife said he could put out feelers during signups to gauge interest.

Council Member Jensen asked about the possibility of holding the tournament right after the season ends. Bryan Fife responded they held a winner’s tournament in the past right after the season ended but this disbanded a few years ago due to lack of interest from the surrounding city’s recreation directors. Council Member Wilhelmsen commented that the month of July is kind of a down time for baseball. Council Member Jensen would like to give an incentive at the end of the season for the players, like a winner’s tournament or something. Bryan Fife said some of the other directors are not even keeping records of the team’s scores. If they decide to hold a tournament, they will have to implement this and keep track of the team scores throughout the season.

Mayor and Council gave discussion about the success of the Heritage Days recreation booth during last year’s celebration. They agreed to put together a few affordable and interesting activities with prizes to include for another booth this year.

3. Recreation Budget

Bryan Fife indicated in the past the city has used a local business to supply the officials for the sporting events. Unfortunately this business went under recently and now he must supply his own officials. There are pros and cons to this process but this has had a direct effect on this year’s budget. There is money available in another recreation line item, but there will be some flexing between items to cover the unexpected costs. This will not be an issue in the future, because a proper line item will be listed from now on to address this need in the recreation budget. Implementing new officials has been quite a process but there have been some positive outcomes. Mayor Richins said he will work with staff to help address the issues affecting this year’s budget. He and Council Member Tait thanked Bryan Fife for his efforts running the recreation program. Bryan Fife responded he enjoys his position with the city.

5. Public Comments.

Ruth Pearce, 295 E. 1150 N., said the Great Shake Out drill will be held on April 17th, 2014. She has reserved the cabin for that day and plans to teach some classes. Classes will be offered on a variety of subjects such as freezer bag meals, preparing children for an emergency and emergency preparedness. She asked Council for input on anyone they may know of that would be willing to help with this effort to please get them in contact with her.

Mayor Hendrix, 2220 N. 750 W., said he appreciates the efforts of Bryan Fife and the enthusiasm surrounding the disc golf course. He suggested having some local businesses sponsor some or all of the disc golf holes to put in the entire course. He said there doesn't have to be a lot of work done for this and thought by soliciting help from the community the entire course might be installed.

Council Member Tait suggested bronze, silver, or gold levels of donation and installing a plaque with the donor information by the hole. Mayor and Council agreed this would be a great opportunity. Council Member Wilhelmsen pointed out the lights on the back nine of the course offer a unique golfing experience. Bryan Fife said once the course is implemented, the maintenance costs are low.

6. Mayor/Council Follow-Up.

Council Member Wilhelmsen said he has been introduced to a template that is available for emergency preparedness and looks forward to having an opportunity to tie all of the resources together for residents with his assignment.

Mayor and Council discussed the ULCT spring conference. Council Member Wilhelmsen and Council Member Pearce will not be attending.

7. ADJOURN

Mayor Richins motioned to adjourn at 8:14 p.m.

ATTEST:

BRUCE RICHINS
Mayor

JENNIE KNIGHT
City Recorder