



## MEETING MINUTES

**RECORDED BY:** Melonie Trang

**MEETING PURPOSE:** Monthly PRC Board Meeting

**MEETING DATE** October 14, 2020  
**AND LOCATION:** Due to COVID19, meeting was held via Zoom

**ATTENDEES:** PRC Board Members:  
Thom MacLean, Lew Morris, Larry Brewster, Marc Wahl,  
Thelma Armstrong, Tom Rupsis

PRPL Staff Members:  
Mike Whitaker, Director  
Mike Pigg, Park Superintendent  
Kory Thomson, Recreation Superintendent  
Mark Jarvis, Park Planner  
Paul Reinhardt, Community Outreach Coordinator

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### I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Tom Rupsis called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM

#### A. INTRODUCTIONS

Mayor Bill Cole  
Assistant City Administrator, Kevin Iffland  
City Council members Danny Choriki

The newest park board member Thelma Armstrong was introduced to the board.

#### B. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The November PRC Board meeting has been moved from November 11<sup>th</sup> to November 4<sup>th</sup> due to the Veterans holiday.

#### C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*Chairman Rupsis asked for a motion on the September 9, 2020 minutes. Board member Larry Brewster moved to approve the minutes. Board member Lew Morris seconded. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.*

### II. DIRECTORS REPORT – Michael Whitaker

Michael Whitaker said the city will be having two public CIP meetings coming up next

week Tuesday October 20 at 12:00pm and the other on Wednesday October 21 at 5:30pm.

### **III. PUBLIC/BOARD COMMENT**

### **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **A. FY2020-FY2026 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP):**

Michael Whitaker said city administration has made some changes to the PRPL CIP. Following changes are:

- Cost adjustment in FY24 to the Dehler Park ballfield replacement. Original amount was \$650,000 changed to \$400,000
- Added to FY23 was the Highland Park playground replacement for \$200,000
- Added to FY22 Poly Vista Park development for \$2,000,000. One million for Landon's Legacy and one million from PD1
- Added to FY22 Swords Rimrock Park road and parking lot repairs for one million from PD1
- South Billings Aquatic/Recreation Center was moved from FY24 to FY23
- Mitchell Ave/Optimist Park parking lot was increased to \$500,000 to construct two parking lots. This has been placed in FY22

Board chair Rupsis asked if the Mitchell Ave/Optimist Park parking lot was being paid for by the South Urban Renewal District. Michael Whitaker said yes.

Board chair Rupsis asked how Poly Vista Park was added since it was a surprise to him. Assistant City Administrator Kevin Iffland explained that staff met with the Landon's Legacy board who expressed that they have received a significant amount of funding that they need to move on. He said they have asked to partner with the city and look at using some of their funds to start on construction ideas.

### **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **A. Parks and Recreation 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report:**

Staff presented the department's quarterly report.

Board member Morris commended Mark Jarvis and Mike Pigg for keeping things going during this rough past summer.

Mayor Bill Cole commend the department for their work.

City Council member Danny Choriki said staff is doing a great job.

#### **B. Parks and Trail Ballot Issue:**

Board chair Rupsis opened up discussion on creating some sort of a parks and

trail ballot that can be presented to City Council next year.

Board member Brewster asked if all of the parks funding had been moved from the general fund into PD1 this budget year. Mr. Rupsis said only one million was moved out of the general fund into PD1.

Board member Brewster commented that we should use bond money to complete a whole park instead of just part.

A comment was made to use revenue bonding for both maintenance and building new parks.

Board member Morris said with the current circumstances he felt people in his age bracket are strapped for money and is concerned on doing any kind of levy.

Council member Danny Choriki commented his preference would be to move everything into a parks mill levy and use the leftover for specific public safety projects but he also would agree that it would be complicated.

Mayor Cole expressed that he did not believe City Council would like to give up or eliminate PD1. He said if there was a substitute source of funding, PD1 could maybe be reduced.

It was brought up for discussion to move all of parks funding out of the general fund and into PD1, freeing up the general fund for public safety.

Board member Armstrong commented that if there was an opportunity to use the Federal COVID money, it should be used on our parks since they have been affected by COVID.

Board chair Rupsis suggested forming a group to look at this issue further and asked for any volunteers. Michael suggested having staff participate and facilitate the committee. Board members Lew Morris, Thom MacLean, Thelma Armstrong volunteered. Members of the committee will be Tom Rupsis, Lew Morris, Thom MacLean, Thelma Armstrong and staff.

## **VII. AJOURNMENT – 1:12 PM**

**(Please note these minutes are summary minutes)**