

Wheaton Park District

Capital Budget Subcommittee Meeting October 17, 2015

1 Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 10:04 AM by President Hodgkinson.

Commissioners Kelly, Vires, Mee and Morrill were present. Commissioners Frey and Schobel were out of town.

Staff present were Executive Director Mike Benard, Parks Director, Rob Sperl, Recreation Director Mary Beth Cleary, Finance Director Rita A. Trainor, and Assistant Finance Director, Andrea Chiappetta.

2 Public Comment

No public comment

3 Discussion Items

3.1 Capital Budget Priorities

Executive Director Mike Benard gave an overview of capital budget needs and funding. He explained the discussion for this morning was to prioritize the top 5 projects. He also reminded the board that over and above the projects being considered today the District has approximately \$1 million in annual demands of capital for replacement of existing District capital.

A discussion was then held as to the “ground rules” for the voting to take place today on the projects.

Rob Sperl, Parks Director, then walked the board through an explanation of each of the projects:

Field House/Additional Athletic Fields

- The opportunity for this project would be approximately 2020.
- Commissioner Kelly indicated that we should be looking at projects in the shorter term

Graf Park Synthetic Turf \$1M

- Two ball fields would be removed to accommodate a new field under the existing light north of the current synthetic field

Central Park \$1.2M

- Most of these projects are already budgeted in 2016: chiller, 2 sheets of ice, restroom, electric bleachers, 2 courts resurfaced, interior concession stands, and vertical playground (2017)

Memorial Park Renovation \$4M

- The current budget include \$50,000 for master planning of this project

- It could include a new band shell, eliminating the tennis court, reconfiguring and improving war memorials, fencing, lighting & sound, and concessions

Lincoln Marsh \$500k

- Installation of an adventure playground that would be an extension of the teams and ropes course
- This could generate significant additional revenue Northside Warming Shelter/Environmental Education Center \$4M
- More year round use in a larger facility located where the existing warming shelter is
- Includes rental boats
- Improved concession area
- Better ability to create rental revenue

Clocktower Commons

- Mini-golf renovation
 - New carpet and plantings are currently planned
 - Additional reconfiguration of course \$200k
 - CTC Annual attendance:
 - Mini golf: 4,750
 - Skate Park: 3,600
- Skate Park \$100k
 - New concrete style ramps to replace the current wood ramps that are beginning to deteriorate
 - The course is free, but not always open
 - Commissioner Kelly asked how many users attend the park, Rob Sperl said he would ask Dan Novak for information

Pickleball/Court Sports \$420k

- This is the amount necessary to replace all of our current courts with the new surface like Atten's tennis courts
- The new courts could accommodate other sports than tennis by additional striping
- It would take 5-6 years to upgrade all the courts

Parking Improvements \$?

- The need for parking at our more heavily used parks was identified by master plan
- Includes: Atten, Briarpatch (widening street), AGC (43 spots \$275k), Seven Gables (losing green space by winners' cup and the big barn), and Brighton (widening street)
- Rob will try to work with the City's paving schedule to partner when streets are being replaced

Cosley Zoo \$5M

- This project would be the first phase of the master plan that is currently being reviewed
- Included is the Animal Welcome Center/Quarantine that's planning is underway \$500,000 (suggested 50/50 split with Foundation)
- Parking on the west side of Gary with a pedestrian underpass \$4M – includes land acquisition

Rice Pool Renovation

- Working with Water Technology on plans to renovate the 25+ year old pool
- \$50k included in 2016 for master plan
- Three options are being considered
 - \$5M would be updating the facility in its current state
 - \$10M could include some amenity improvements
 - \$15M would be intended to make the new pool a regional draw with significant improvements
- Commissioner Mee asked Mike Benard to reach out to Warrenville and Winfield to discuss partnering

Community Center Renovation \$250k

- Centrally located front desk in lobby for more welcoming environment
- Building access control system so staff knows who's in the building at all times
- Coffee shop with deck overlooking pool
- Commissioner Kelly said the District needs to hire a structural engineer to fix the steel and concrete on the building facing the pool

The voting resulted in the following ranking: 1) Parking Improvements, 2) Central Park, 3) Cosley Zoo, 4) Memorial Park, and 5) Rice Pool.

3.2 2016 Capital Projects

Rob Sperl took the Board through the 2016 budget and they directed staff to make the following changes:

- District-wide portable generator was removed from budget
- Synthetic turf project was removed from budget
- Annual Pond and Stream Maintenance was removed from 2016 since Rathje is budgeted
- Districtwide asphalt replacement, \$500k remains the same after much discussion however will be used for repair and engineering and may be revised in future years
- Northside buffer maintenance - add \$25k to 2016 but removed from capital and into contractual services
- Central Athletic – ice rink surface increased to \$500k from \$206,400 in 2016 to accommodate two ice surfaces; one for figure skating and one for ice hockey
- Central Athletic- Playground \$175k pushed from 2016 to 2017
- Atten – Farm Bridge Replacement pushed from 2016 to 2017
- Cosley - animal welcome center and Kiebler barn fence - add suggested before 50/50 split

- LM - connection to Northside engineering \$25k eliminate from 2016
- LM - main entrance parking \$192k push to 2018 - look at installing bumpers to delineate spots
- Memorial - Roof \$59,060 move from 2016 to 2018 (suggest rounding to \$60k)
- Rathje - Shoreline - revise \$150k in 2016 to \$120k
- Rathje - Dredging - revise \$75k in 2016 to \$62k
- Seven Gables – Parking expansion increase to \$100k for planning
- Scottdale - add a shelter at \$40k in 2016 in addition to the playground
- Lucent - restrooms push \$300k from 2016 to 2018
- Historical museum - account for elevator, electrical and HVAC in donations Historical museum
- remove \$100k exhibit as it will likely be more and donations would be anticipated

3.3 Staff follow up Items:

- Atten – Board asked Rob Sperl why there was a decrease in the back stop on field #18 dropping from \$35k to \$10k. This was the amount spent on the improvement this year. Staff was directed not to spend anything on additional improvements there.
- Cosley - walk in freezer, no budget change but coordinate with Neil for potential cost savings
- Community Center - provided WT report on HVAC at next B&G meeting, have Carrier provided report on condition of chiller
- Northside - Tennis courts identify seeking CUSD 200 contribution for Wheaton North use
- Northside Monument Restoration - identify donations to subsidize half of the cost
- Mike to work on raising funds for the Museum Permanent Exhibit

3.4 Health Insurance Program

Mike outlined the choice between staying with PDRMA or going with a broker. He provided a cost comparison. Committee's direction was for staff to recommend one broker based upon what additional services the broker would provide and which broker would be best for staff to work with. Commissioner Kelly indicated concern about how much the premiums could go up from quote to underwriting. He wants to know from the broker how close the various companies have historically come in after underwriting compared to their initial quotes.

4 Future Finance Committee Meeting

Discussion was held on when the Finance Committee would meet to have a follow up discussion on the health insurance and related issues as well as other topics on the Finance Committee's agenda. Wednesday, October 28th at 5:30 pm at the Historical Museum was determined to be the best option.

Adjournment

Commissioner Vires moved and Commissioner Kelly seconded a motion to adjourn. All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 12:24 PM