



**LOUISBURG PARK AND TREE BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, October 12, 2020**

The Park & Tree Board of Louisburg, Kansas met at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers with Chairperson Bob Bazin presiding.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members: Wayne Knop, and Michael McClellan

Board Members Attended Remotely via Cell Phone: David Maddax

Mayor: Marty Southard

City Council: Sandy Harris

City Administrator: Nathan Law

City Staff: Jean Carder

Louisburg Rec Commission: Diana Moore

Recording Secretary: Rusty Whitham

Visitors: None

Item 1: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Item 2: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

A motion was made by Wayne Knop to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Michael McClellan. Motion passed 4-0.

Item 3: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

A motion was made by Wayne Knop to approve September 14, 2020 minutes. The motion was seconded by Michael McClellan. Motion passed 4-0.

Item 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:

Item 5: A discussion concerning a potential tennis/pickleball court reservation policy and possible fee structure.

Administrator Nathan Law explained that the City established the “Field Rental and Parks Reservation” policy on May 20, 2019. This policy allows individuals to reserve park amenities such as; the grandstands, ballfields, and Boy Scout camp sites in L/Y Park. He then said that the pavilions at City Park and Ron Weers can also be reserved for private use. Law asked with the recent popularity of pickleball would the Board be interested in establishing a reservation policy that may include a rental fee for the court at City Park. Administrator Law said since tennis and pickleball can be played on the same court there may be a high demand for this amenity. Establishing a reservation policy may rectify any future usage issues.

Bob Bazin asked if this is something the Rec Commission handles. Diana Moore said the Rec Commission organizes indoor pickleball games starting in November on Wednesdays at the Wildcat Events Center (WAC) in the morning and Rockville Elementary at night. The Rec Commission does not schedule or organize outdoor pickleball games at City Park. Moore explained the pickleball games at City Park are on a first-come first-serve basis.

Wayne Knop asked if someone schedules the tennis/pickleball court how long should the time slot be. Should we allow people to schedule in one or two-hour blocks.

Michael McClellan mentioned that it would be beneficial for people to know the courts are available when they show up to play. Having a reservation policy in place may be a good idea.

It was mentioned that a girl was recently seen conducting drum major lessons on the court. This indicates that the courts are being used not just for tennis or pickleball games.

Diana Moore said that she has had a few people asking how to reserve the courts.

Michael McClellan suggested a nominal fee should be associated with the reservation. McClellan stressed that any fee should be small. McClellan suggested \$5 an hour may be reasonable.

Bob Bazin mentioned if there is no fee associated with the reservation, people could reserve the court and never show up to play.

Administrator Nathan Law stated Staff will do more research and bring it back to the Board for further discussion.

Michael McClellan suggested the Board reevaluate the ballfield usage fees. McClellan said the costs associated with the increased wear and tear on the fields adds up. McClellan recommended increasing the fees for out of town teams/tournaments to \$50-\$60 per hour regardless of the lighting system usage. It was mentioned that reservation fees are \$50-\$75 in the city and some in cases Louisburg facilities are better. McClellan ended by saying if the Board is reviewing the reservation policy it may be a good time to reevaluate fees for the ballfields as well.

NOTE: The current hourly fee structure in L/P is:

Baseball/Softball (*rate applies if used by football*) \$30

Soccer \$20

Football \$20

Light Fee (any field) \$15

The conversation ended concerning this topic.

OLD BUSINESS:

Item 6: Administrator Nathan Law provided the Board Members with aerial imageries of the new disc golf course under construction in L/P (long and short courses). The short course baskets are currently being installed. The long course illustrates future expansion of the course.

A brief discussion occurred concerning the future expansion of the course. It was noted that the long course plans are not set in stone. Further discussion is needed to solidify future expansion plans.

REPORTS:

Item 7: Individual area of responsibility updates:

- Bob Bazin (Chairperson) – Nothing to report
- David Maddax (Aquatic Center) – Maddax mentioned that the trash can at the playground adjacent the Aquatic Center is full. Maddax said this trash can has been full for a couple of months. Administrator Law stated that the City will have trash can emptied of as soon as possible.

Maddax also said there are foxes roaming around town. He is concerned for the safety children and small pets. Administrator Law mentioned that the City has posted a message on Facebook to ensure that the public is aware of the issue. Bob Bazin suggested that this may be a Kansas Department of Fish and Wildlife issue.

- Andy Gibbons (City Park) – Not Present
- Wayne Knop (Ron Weers Park) – Knop asked if the aerator system in the lake been repaired. Staff mentioned that the system has indeed been repaired. A technician replaced a few clogged air filters and cleaned a couple lines. The technician also noted that the noise produced by the aerator is within limits and the compressor is not producing excessive heat. Staff also stated 8 out of 10 lines are currently operating. Two of the nonoperational lines are filled with water. The technician will mail Staff a key to open the cabinet so that the city can blowout the two lines that are filled with water.
- Jack Kline (Forestry Manager) – Not Present
- Michael McClellan (Lewis-Young Park) – Nothing to report
- Diana Moore and/or Amy Buffington (Louisburg Rec Commission) – Nothing to report
- City Administrator – Administrator Nathan Law
- City Council Member Sandy Harris – Nothing to report
- **Item 9: ADJOURNMENT:**

Wayne Knop made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Michael McClellan. The motion passed 4-0. The meeting ended at 6:53 p.m.

Submitted by Rusty Whitham