City of Carthage, Missouri
PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

September 19, 2024 - 5:00 PM
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dustin Edge, Tiffany Cossey, Lori Leece
MEMBERS ABSENT: Jana Schramm

OTHERS PRESENT: Associate Golf Professional Tyler Markham, Recreations and Events Coordinator Chelsea Cholley

STAFF PRESENT: Parks and Recreation Director Abi Almandinger, Administrative Assistant Angie Judd, Assistant City Administrator Traci Cox

Chairman Dustin Edge called the meeting to order at 05:01 PM.

2. Old Business

1. Approval of Previous Minutes.

ACTION:	Motion to accept/approve item 2.1. by Lori Leece; second by None; Motion passed with a 2:0
AYES:	Dustin Edge, Lori Leece
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	Tiffany Cossey

3. Citizen Participation

(Citizens wishing to address the Council or Committee should notify the City in advance and provide the item they want to address in written format at least 24 hours before the meeting. Please call Angie Judd at the Parks & Recreation office at 417-237-7035, or email a.judd@carthagemo.gov.)

1. Jonathan Roberts - YMCA

   Jonathan Roberts, CEO of Fair Acres YMCA, provided an overview of the Municipal Park and Central Park pools, discussing revenue, expenses, and supplies. He highlighted improvements made since the YMCA partnered with the City in 2016, including the addition of a full-time aquatics staff member holding a pool operator and LGI (Lifeguard Instructor) license, which enables in-house lifeguard training and swim lessons. Roberts also shared drowning statistics to emphasize the partnership's role in enhancing water safety. He acknowledged the significant pool leak this season was a challenge but stated that stability in chemical management was achieved by the end of summer, believing it to be a management situation for next year.

4. New Business

1. Consider and discuss golf cart bid.

Ms. Almandinger introduced Tyler Markham, Associate Head Golf Professional, to review the bids received in response to the RFP for golf cars: Masek Golf Car Company submitted a net bid of $198,350, and Clear Creek Golf Car offered a net total of $139,500. Mr. Markham noted that since transitioning from Yamaha to Club Cars, feedback has shown a preference for Yamaha due to their quieter operation and better fit for two passengers, which is essential for the course. He emphasized that golf is a game of concentration, and the noise from the current fleet can be frustrating for players. Mr. Markham recommended replacing the 54-cart fleet now, as it is three years old and trade-in value decreases over time. Mr. Edge inquired about the existing lease, and Ms. Cox stated there is one payment left, with current payments at $16,353. Ms. Cossey asked if replacing the entire fleet was necessary or if a phased replacement could be considered. Mr. Markham explained that staggered replacements could complicate warranties and maintenance, noting that industry standards recommend replacing carts every 3-5 years. He confirmed that all carts are the same age, each used daily and heavily during tournaments, leading to high maintenance needs, with 65% of the vehicle maintenance budget already spent in the first two months of the fiscal year. After further discussion and audience feedback, Ms. Leece motioned to table the discussion, and the motion passed.

ACTION:	Motion to table item 4.1. by Lori Leece; second by None; Motion passed with a 3:0
AYES:	Dustin Edge, Tiffany Cossey, Lori Leece
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

2. Consider and discuss Liquor License-Retail by drink-Resort.

Ms. Almandinger stated that during the last Public Services Committee meeting, approval was granted for the golf course to obtain a liquor license. However, further research revealed that the appropriate license is "retail by drink-resort" to accommodate groups and events requesting hard liquor on the premises. She clarified that this license would not include the sale of hard liquor. Ms. Leece motioned to allow the golf course to proceed with obtaining the retail by drink-resort liquor license, and the motion passed.

ACTION:	Motion to accept/approve item 4.2. by Lori Leece; second by None; Motion passed with a 2:0
AYES:	Dustin Edge, Lori Leece
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	Tiffany Cossey

3. Consider and discuss surplus of building at saddle club arena.

Ms. Almandinger introduced Garrett Tuggle, a representative of the Saddle Club, to discuss an unused building in the saddle club area. Mr. Tuggle explained that the building was originally placed near the cook shack to provide easier and safer access for customers purchasing food at the arena but was never utilized and has since fallen into disrepair. Ms. Almandinger clarified that the building now functions as a storage shed and is rotting. She proposed declaring the building obsolete to allow for its removal and demolition. Ms. Leece motioned to forward the resolution to surplus the building at the saddle club arena to full council, and the motion passed.

ACTION:	Motion to accept/approve item 4.3. by Lori Leece; second by None; Motion passed with a 3:0
AYES:	Dustin Edge, Tiffany Cossey, Lori Leece
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

4. Consider and discuss food truck for rodeo event.

Mr. Tuggle stated that once the current building in the saddle club arena is demolished, he hopes to place a food truck in its location as an extension of the cook shack. Ms. Almandinger added that Mr. Tuggle is currently working on creating the trailer and is seeking approval for the food truck to operate inside the park at the arena during the rodeo. Ms. Leece motioned to approve the use of the food truck at the fairgrounds for the duration of the event, and the motion passed.

ACTION:	Motion to accept/approve item 4.4. by Lori Leece; second by None; Motion passed with a 3:0
AYES:	Dustin Edge, Tiffany Cossey, Lori Leece
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

5. Consider and discuss Little League.

Ms. Cossey stated that Ms. Schramm had requested this item be placed on the agenda and motioned to table it until Ms. Schramm could be present. Ms. Leece noted that there were audience members in attendance for this discussion and suggested hearing their input on Little League. Ms. Cossey clarified that the discussion is about whether the City should continue to operate Little League. Ms. Almandinger explained that the City does not operate Little League; it is managed under the Little League Charter. Ms. Cholley, Events and Recreation Coordinator, added that salaries cannot be paid from Little League funds, as it violates the charter. She mentioned that as part of her role, she spent around 80 work hours helping to establish the charter and get Little League started. Ms. Cholley sees her role as a liaison to various youth sports organizations, and feedback suggests that Carthage citizens want the City to be involved in youth sports and recreation. Ms. Almandinger added that the department is focused on improving and maintaining parks and fields, a priority based on past community feedback. Ms. Cossey emphasized that she views the City's primary role as maintaining the Fair Acres sports complex. After further discussion, Mr. Edge noted that this topic may be revisited in the future. No action was taken.

6. Consider and discuss bid for Memorial Hall sign.

Ms. Almandinger revisited the bid for the Memorial Hall sign, reiterating that the RFP was posted on the City's website, in the local newspaper, and sent to four companies, following the competitive bid process outlined in the city's purchasing policy. Ms. Cossey expressed concerns about the limited outreach and stated she would not support future projects conducted this way. Ms. Leece motioned to move forward with the DPI Signs bid and forward it to full council, and the motion passed.

ACTION:	Motion to accept/approve item 4.6. by Lori Leece; second by None;
	Motion passed with a 3:0
AYES:	Dustin Edge, Tiffany Cossey, Lori Leece
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

7. Consider and discuss ribbon cutting.

Ms. Cossey mentioned that Ms. Schramm had expressed concern about the Chamber of Commerce not being involved in the ribbon cutting for the Dog Park. Ms. Almandinger explained that the Parks Department has organized grand openings in the past and was unaware of any requirement to partner with the Chamber for such events. Ms. Cossey noted that she was informed the Chamber usually handles ribbon cuttings for all parks. Ms. Almandinger clarified that this was not the case, but the Chamber has held ribbon cuttings for the new playgrounds. No action was taken.

8. Consider and discuss sponsorships.

Ms. Leece motioned to table item until the next meeting, and the motion passed.

ACTION:	Motion to table item 4.8. by Lori Leece; second by None;
	Motion passed with a 3:0
AYES:	Dustin Edge, Tiffany Cossey, Lori Leece
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

5. Staff Reports

Ms. Almandinger reported that the packet includes updates on activities and projects completed in the parks and at the golf course, as well as reports on events, recreation, and golf course operations for August. She noted that the seasonal maintenance crew will soon transition out, with plans to hire a new team to complete fall and winter projects. She also mentioned an application for a grant to improve the Central Park flower beds. Ms. Cossey raised concerns about vandalism in park restrooms, where items were being flushed down toilets and causing damage. Ms. Almandinger acknowledged that vandalism is common and said efforts are being made to mitigate the damage, with hopes of eventually purchasing security cameras for the parks.

6. Other Business

7. Adjournment

ACTION:	Motion to Adjourn at 07:20 PM by Lori Leece
	Motion Passed with a 3:0
AYES:	Dustin Edge, Tiffany Cossey, Lori Leece
NOES:	None

ABSTAIN:	None