

PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

October 19, 2021
City Hall Council Chambers
5:30 pm

Public Services Committee Members Present; Ceri Otero, Seth Thompson, Mike Daugherty

Members Absent: Juan Topete

Staff Present: Mark Peterson, Kailey Lambeth, Tom Short

Non-Members: Abi Almandinger, Craig Diggs, Bren Flanigan

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm.

Old Business:

1. Consider and approve minutes from the previous meeting.
Mike Daugherty made a motion to approve September minutes.
Motion Passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Consider and Discuss Central Park Christmas Lights.

Mr. Peterson presented details about Christmas Lights at Central Park. The Park Department and Carthage Water and Electric have partnered to light up Central Park for the holidays. Carthage has purchased all the materials for the project. We anticipate lighting Central Park on an annual basis. Brian Bradley, Park Superintendent, and Carthage Water and Electric staff went to Silver Dollar City to view demonstrations on how to assemble the lights on the trees more efficiently. The lights will be hung on the trees, starting at the base leading up to the canopy. Some canopies will be lighted as well. The shelters and structures within Central Park will be outlined with lights. The lights bright white LED bulbs. In addition, four fabricated metal Christmas trees will be placed in the four planter areas. Different sizes of bulbs were purchased for the trees, buildings, and Christmas trees. The Park Department and CWEP will use all available staff to put up and take down lights. The overall goal is to create a holiday environment that may be used for family and business activities through the holiday season. There will be several photo opportunities within the park. The anticipated initial lighting will be around Thanksgiving and continue through January 1. We will coordinate with other holiday events to determine the best start date for the lighting.

2. Consider and Discuss Civic Enhancement Fund Appropriation for Parks.

Mr. Peterson discussed appropriating funds from the Civic Enhancement Fund. The goal is to use the funds and work within the fund guidelines and with

stakeholders to use the funds correctly. Some of these funds have been idle for a lengthy time.

Sub-funds include-

Garden's at Central Park-\$1100

Parks in General- \$2200

Roundabout Maintenance- \$3000

Skate Park Carryover- \$2,900

Kellogg Lake-\$1,000

Mr. Peterson will work with Tom Short and the Budget Committee to start the process. In addition, Mr. Peterson will communicate how these funds are being used as this moves forward.

STAFF REPORTS

Golf- September numbers were great. We continue to exceed national trends.

Trees- Starting Wednesday, October 20, nine trees will be taken out of Central Park. These trees are considered dead and or dangerous. We will be adding nine or potentially more trees to replace the ones taken out. We will do this alongside our tree inventory work and the recommendation on location and type.

Master Plan- Our first Public Engagement Meeting had a great turnout. Excellent feedback was received, with many good questions asked. Comments were made by many thanking us for using a process that heavily involves the public. The stakeholder meetings, focus group meetings, and one-on-one sessions with the groups and individuals worked well in the process. The next public engagement meeting will take place on November 4 at 6 pm, located at Memorial Hall. This meeting will focus more on the Hispanic community.

Maple Leaf- Maple Leaf went well. No damage occurred at Fair Acres with the carnival. The carnival always does a great job every year. Minor damage was done at Kellogg Lake. We will need to do some minor grading with ruts from the Monster Truck, but nothing significant. The Car Show had a great turnout, with about 450 entries this year. Traffic was an issue this year, but the Police Department did a great job directing the traffic. Mr. Peterson will visit the organizers on potential new locations if this same traffic is forecasted for upcoming years. Central Park had no damage to the park. One bench was broken in the area of the Tractor Show. The group has offered to have it repaired.

Meeting adjourned at 6:01 pm.