

**Clearwater Recreation Commission  
Minutes of Wednesday, May 8, 2024  
Held at Clearwater Public Library**

**Members Present:** Jamie Tjaden, John Hurley, Layne Pike and Landon Doll

**Members Absent:** Amanda Germann

**Guests:** Burt Ussery (City of Clearwater mayor) and Courtney Zollinger (City of Clearwater Administrator)

**Jamie Tjaden called the regular monthly meeting to order at 6:30 pm.**

**Approve agenda for meeting:** May 8, 2024 Hurley motion, Doll 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed 4-0.

**Review member minutes of:** April 10, 2024 Pike motion, Hurley 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed 4-0.

**Reviewed warrants of:** April 10, 2024, Tjaden motion, Doll 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed 4-0.

**Approve warrants for:** May 8, 2024, Pike motion, Hurley 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed 4-0.

**Review financial reports of:** May 8, 2024 Tjaden motion, Pike 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed 4-0.

**Program report:**

Director spoke about programs in April including bingo, picnic activity, coloring contest, STEM building and upcoming walking/running activity for the summer. Baseball and softball games have started, there was a free skills clinic on April 20 and Blast ball will begin May 21. The basketball goals and equipment to be installed at CIMS gym have been delivered and ready for USD 264 staff to put up this summer.

**Old Business:**

Members continued to discuss options and locations for a recreational facility in Clearwater.

**New Business:**

City representatives reported USD 264 has requested wifi service be installed at Sports Complex so City requested Commission to pay for half of installation cost. Zollinger said USD 264 will purchase cameras needed to stream events at Complex. Hurley made a motion, Pike 2<sup>nd</sup>, to pay half of the estimated cost for fiber installation at Sports Complex up to \$3750 from #53 (New Improvements). Motion passed 4-0.

City representatives presented 2024 field usage agreement, including the new reservation fee of \$6,000 to use Sports Complex and City Park fields for baseball and softball season. Hurley made a motion, Doll 2<sup>nd</sup>, to pay \$6,000 for field usage for the 2024 season from category #40 (Field Maintenance).

Ussery spoke on behalf of City as they are requesting one mill of Commission's three allocated mills to financially support the City's recreational properties. The City's governing body is going to focus on funding the City's infrastructure and is looking to broaden the tax base using the mill from Commission that derives from those living in the USD 264 boundaries. Commission members questioned what the mill would actually pay for, Hurley asked if it was a possibility for Commission to maintain parks to show where the mill was going. Ussery said that could happen but was not currently under consideration. Zollinger stated Clearwater residents' taxes are highest in Sedgwick County and the City does not want to reduce staffing or raise taxes. Ussery and Zollinger left the letter asking for funding for Commission to discuss. Members asked Director to get the following financial information from City including broken out costs for Sports Complex, City Park, Aquatic Center and Ponds. They would also like to see labor separate as well as utilities as another line item and also contract costs.

Commission reviewed preliminary budget for 2024-2025 to as they prepare to decide final allocations for line items during the June meeting.

**Adjournment at 9:10 p.m.**

**The next meeting will be June 19, 2024 at 5:00 PM in the library.**

**Beki Zook - Recreation Director**