

Minutes of the Centerville **City Council Work Session** held Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., with participants present at City Hall, 250 North Main Street.

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mayor Clark Wilkinson

Council Members Cheylynn Hayman  
Gina Hirst  
Robyn Mecham  
Brian Plummer  
Spencer Summerhays

#### **STAFF PRESENT**

Jennifer Robison, City Recorder  
Nate Plaizier, Finance Director  
Haley Turner, Community Services Manager  
Bryce King, Administrative Services Director  
Mike Carlson, Public Works Director  
Mike Eggett, Community Development Director  
Dave Walker, Utilities Manager  
Paul Child, Centerville Police Chief  
Whitney Black, Assistant Planner

#### **RECREATION FUND FINANCIALS**

Finance Director Nate Plaizier explained that historically the Recreation Fund had a negative balance for a portion of each year. He showed Recreation Fund financial statements for the last few years, with increased operational and labor expenses. Responding to a question from Councilmember Hirst, Administrative Services Director Bryce King said recreation fees had increased, but only by a small amount. Mr. Plaizier said he anticipated the Fund would be operating at a loss again at the end of the fiscal year, and suggested the Council discuss recreation offerings and increased fees versus City subsidization.

Community Services Manager Haley Turner reported on current recreation offerings and participation numbers. Councilmember Mecham expressed the opinion that registration through the City for third-party off-site activities should involve lower fees than would be available to those registering directly with the third parties. The Council and staff discussed different off-site organizations with which the City had worked.

Mayor Wilkinson commented on the decrease in resident participation in recreation activities in recent years. Mr. King said the decrease was possibly due in part to a change in demographics in Centerville. He mentioned the pandemic in 2020, and suggested 2024 participation numbers would probably be a good indicator for participation moving forward.

Councilmember Hayman suggested listing local off-site activity options (and associated websites) with the list of City recreation activities, without being directly involved with registration for off-site options if registration through the City did not include the benefit of reduced fees. Councilmember Summerhays said he agreed. Councilmember Hirst said she would want to see some discount for residents if the City advertised for a third party. Councilmember Mecham said she knew that in the past at least some of the off-site parties offered significant discounts to residents who registered through the City. Mr. King said staff would reach out to the off-site businesses and report back to the Council.

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The Council and staff discussed the City's baseball program. Councilmember Hayman said it would be helpful to know recreation prices of other cities in the area, and whether other cities subsidized their recreation programs. Staff confirmed the City had lost money on baseball concessions year after year. Councilmember Summerhays asked if staff had considered partnering with a third party for concessions. Ms. Turner said staff had discussed multiple options. Councilmember Mecham asked if family members of participants could be allowed to work the concessions stand in exchange for reduced participation fees. Mr. King spoke of challenges involved, and said he would prefer to keep the staffing in house. He suggested hosting additional baseball tournaments would bring in more concession revenue, and said he would like to have the concessions stand open during 4<sup>th</sup> of July activities with the Youth Council providing labor.

Ms. Turner reported increased transportation costs for the City's ski school program, which limited the number of possible participants in 2024 to 50. She spoke of cost savings to the residents for five days of skiing despite increased participation fees.

Councilmember Mecham said she would like to see more affordable activity options. Mr. King encouraged Councilmembers to forward resident comments and feedback to staff.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:07 p.m., Councilmember Summerhays **moved** to adjourn the Work Session.

DocuSigned by:



4/3/2024 | 4:23 PM MDT

Jennifer Robison, City Recorder

Date Approved

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