

**Park Board Meeting
August 12, 2024**

Pursuant to due call and order, the Board of Park Commissioners, Dickinson Park District, met for a Regular Meeting at 4:00 pm on Monday, August 12, 2024, at the West River Community Center.

ROLL CALL: Present were Commissioners Scott Karsky, Tim Daniel, Zach Keller, Nic Stevenson, Tyler Tucker. Also, present were Executive Director Benjamin Rae, Director of Buildings/Grounds Craig Pearson, Director of Recreation/Facilities Caleb Burgard, and Clerk Leah Hoenke.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – MOTIONED BY: Nic Stevenson; SECONDED BY: Tim Daniel to approve the agenda as provided. Roll call vote: Ayes-5; Nays-0; Absent-0. Motion carried.

RECOGNITION – Kara Visger 5 years. President Scott Karsky said that Kara does a great job and we appreciate it.

CONSENT AGENDA – Consent agenda items were presented for approval as follows: Meeting minutes from July 8, July 24 and August 5; July Claims in the amount of \$916,591.41; Pledged Securities; Dickinson Adult Hockey League Agreement; Dickinson Dolphins Agreement and Dickinson Dream Agreement. MOTIONED BY: Tim Daniel; SECONDED BY: Zach Keller. Roll call vote: Ayes-5; Nays-0; Absent-0. Motion carried.

BUILDINGS/GROUNDS

Director of Buildings/Grounds Report – Director Craig Pearson provided a written report and added that we have filled the facility maintenance position with Alex Klug who will be starting on August 26.

RECREATION/FACILITIES

Director of Recreation/Facilities Report – Director Caleb Burgard provided a written report and added that the annual swim under the stars sponsored by Midco had a record year with 1,251 participants compared to last year's 1,024. He also said there was a Parkside movie, the first one at the bandshell with 75 in attendance. Chalk walk had a record attendance with about 700 individuals over the evening. Director Burgard also mentioned that the DSU tennis courts concrete work is starting next week with resurfacing in September.

Golf Cart RFB Review – Director of Recreation/Facilities Caleb Burgard reviewed and said we received two bids, first from NB Golf Cars and second from Yamaha Golf & Utility. He reviewed the specifications from each of the bids showing NB Golf Cars at \$59,691.60 with a GPS bid alternate at \$94,215.60. Yamaha bid was \$61,433.58 with no bid alternate included. Both bids were 60 carts for a 4-year lease. Director Burgard said we anticipated the 2025 budget to include a \$60,000 payment. Discussion was held on GPS car tracking and push notifications. Commissioner Zach Keller said we had budgeting for a ranger position, and this was possibly going to replace the need for that. Director Burgard said with a ranger position it would not cost what the cost would be for the added module. He added that the software from Tag Martial came in at \$20,000. Discussion followed on advertising for the added cost. Commissioner Nic Stevenson said we raised our fees for the minimum of the cart bid but did not raise them to add the alternates. He thinks it would improve some efficiency and would be beneficial. Discussion followed on cart rental fees. Executive Director Benjamin Rae said we are charging in line and at the upper end of what other courses charge around the state. Golf Professional Mike Rademaker said having the GPS module would solve a lot of problems and would increase the customer experience as well. Commissioner Tim Daniel said he would like to request that we come back with the revenue projections to be able to make a more informed decision, he doesn't want to rush into anything to accept the bids. Golf Pro Rademaker said with the high volume of golfers we have; we have a lot of new golfers that don't have a clue about where to drive and how to drive them and this would help with that. Commissioner Tyler Tucker asked if this is becoming the norm in carts. Mike Rademaker said yes. Commissioner Keller said if it comes down to adjusting our fees schedule to provide an enhanced experience we should have that conversation. Executive Director Rae said we can adjust line items in the budget, but we can't increase or adjust the mill levy. Commissioner Stevenson said because this is a golf related item, he believes it should come through the user fees. Director Rae said in 2024 we will have a budget surplus at the golf course. For 2025 we don't know what rounds will be and what effect the opening of Pheasant Country will have. Commissioner Tim Daniel asked with the budget surplus where does that surplus go. Director Rae said it gets absorbed back into the general fund. More discussion followed on the matter. Discussion followed on whether to approve the basic bid now and potentially add the alternate later if needed. President Karsky entertained a motion. MOTIONED BY: Zach Keller; SECONDED BY: Tim Daniel to approve the ND Golf Car base bid at \$59,691.60 and to request more research on alternate GPS options. Roll call vote: Ayes-5; Nays-0; Absent-0. Motion carried.

Fitness Equipment Financing Approval – Director of Recreation/Facilities Caleb Burgard reviewed the financing options and said at last month's meeting the board approved the request for financing for fitness equipment. He showed the rates from 7 financial institutions and in that we are anticipating a 5-year term. He said we've never financed through Balboa Capital in the past as local institutions could match but now it is not even close. President Scott Karsky said we should look at the local option as we need their support. Commissioner Zach Keller commented from a bank perspective that banking is weird right now, he feels better about the stability of local banks in addition to them being local. Executive Director Benjamin Rae said an interest rate of 5.5 percent is what he anticipated the market being. More discussion followed on local financing versus non-local. Commissioner Keller recommended going with the next local bank option, which is Kirkwood Bank. MOTIONED BY: Zach Keller; SECONDED BY: Nic Stevenson to accept the Kirkwood Bank with Kinetic Leasing, Inc. at a rate of 5.19% with \$350 closing costs. Roll call vote: Ayes-5; Nays-0; Absent-0. Motion carried.

BUSINESS/FINANCE

July Financial – MOTIONED BY: Nic Stevenson; SECONDED BY: Tim Daniel to approve the July financial as presented. Roll call vote: Ayes-5; Nays-0; Absent-0. Motion carried.

Executive Director Report – Executive Director Benjamin Rae noted that Roers will be starting construction on the outside stairwell work at the community center. He had nothing further to report.

Board Appointment – WRCC Renovation – President Scott Karsky said we are starting to plan on the renovations and recommends Tyler Tucker to be a part of those conversations. MOTIONED BY: Nic Stevenson; SECONDED BY: Tim Daniel to appoint Commissioner Tyler Tucker to sit on the WRCC Renovation Project committee. Roll call vote: Ayes-5; Nays-0; Absent-0. Motion carried.

Adjournment – MOTIONED BY: Zach Keller; SECONDED BY: Tyler Tucker to adjourn the meeting at 4:48 pm. All aye, motion carried.

PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Clerk

President