

City of Smith Center
February 22, 2019
Special Council Meeting
12:00pm

A special meeting was called in regards to Economic Development finances and the Swimming Pool Committee efforts.

Governing body members present: Don Wick, Dave Mace, Adam Rentschler, and Chris Cole. Absent: Tracy Kingsbury.

Others present: Arloa Barnes, Amber Conaway, Brad Howland, Terri Jones, and Jill Conaway. Judy Burgess, Lou Benoit, Amy Howland, and Bert Reinking arrived at 12:04pm.

The meeting was called to order at 12:00pm by Mayor Wiehl and opened for discussion.

Arloa Barnes addressed the council on the recent actions of the Swimming Pool Committee as well as information received from Kyle McCawley of Lamp Rynearson (formerly Larkin Aquatics). The original engineer's estimate included a bathhouse that was much more elaborate than needed. By eliminating these expenses, the revised estimate is projected to be \$1,691,356, to instead include a separate standing building approximately 10'x15' for the chemicals and electrical panels.

Brad Howland, Economic Development Advisory Board, answered questions from council members regarding the department's funding, cash flow, the Director position, recurring expenses, and programs.

Discussion resumed on the requirements and contingencies of the CDBG funding. For this special grant option, the pool that can be constructed does not include any slides, splash pad, or any of the other extras seen in area community pools recently rebuilt. Council members asked if the plumbing for these extras is included in the cost estimate so that additions can be added later. Barnes confirmed the plumbing costs are included. The concern on the existing sewer line that runs under the current pool was addressed. The engineers cannot state with any certainty whether the demolition or reconstruction would damage or cause the line to collapse. The committee had talked at their most recent meeting about the probability of either moving the location of the pool to the east and north or moving the sewer line. Members of the council voiced that should the project be awarded grant funding and the additional funds be available

to proceed, that the community ultimately would have a pool in place similar to those in the surrounding area with the splash pad, slides, and/or other youth attractions versus the basic swimming pool allowed under the grant guidelines. In order for these additions to be in place, it would be vital the committee continue to work on fundraisers and other revenue options. Barnes responded that the committee would get additional members of the community involved to reach this goal.

A motion was made by Wick, seconded by Mace to approve the pledge of \$75,000 in Economic Development funds towards the Swimming Pool Project contingent upon grant approval and the project moving forward, with the option of this money to remain in Economic Development should the project not make completion. Mayor Wiehl asked for a roll call vote with the following results: Mace-Aye; Wick-Aye; Cole-Aye-with the condition that the Economic Development Department is not crippled by the funding amount; the Swimming Pool Committee staying intact and active with the goal of adding youth activities once the pool is built, in order to assure the community would have a pool with more than a diving board and zero-entry; Rentschler-Aye-in agreeance with Cole's stipulations. Motion carried.

Members of the council commended the Swimming Pool Committee members for their time and efforts on the quest to replace the current pool.

In order to lessen expenditures should the project move forward, a motion was made by Mace, seconded by Rentschler to provide additional support through labor and city owned trucks as needed. Motion carried.

Motion by Wick, seconded by Rentschler, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:29pm.

Attest:

Jill Conaway, City Clerk