

The El Dorado City Commission met in a regular session on May 4, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the Commission Room with the following present: Mayor Bill Young, Commissioner Matt Guthrie, Commissioner Gregg Lewis, Commissioner Nick Badwey, Commissioner Kendra Wilkinson, City Manager David Dillner, City Engineer Scott Rickard and City Clerk Tabitha Sharp.

VISITORS

Kevin Wishart 220 E 1st Ave El Dorado, KS

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bill Young called the May 4, 2020 meeting to order.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Kendra Wilkinson opened the meeting with an invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The City Commission led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITION

Mayor Bill Young read a proclamations declaring Poppy month and Public Service Recognition Week in El Dorado.

RE-OPENING OF THE CITY OF EL DORADO

Mayor Bill Young read a statement on the re-opening of City of El Dorado as allowed by the Governor’s plan.

Commissioner Matt Guthrie asked why we were closing the Activity Center.

Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Wishart stated that attendance is very limited during the summer. He stated that the most attended times are Wednesday night men’s basketball and Sunday afternoon/evenings. He stated that the attendance does not warrant a staff member especially since basketball is not encouraged under the social distancing rules.

Commissioner Guthrie asked that we consider reopening the facility.

PUBLIC COMMENT

During the COVID 19 pandemic, the City of El Dorado is temporarily suspending the opportunity for public comments during meetings. Citizens with information for the City Commission are encouraged to contact the City Clerk.

City Manager David Dillner read comments for the following:

Jackie Herbison, 1010 SE River Road, who requested that more attention be paid to Riverview Park.

Kevin and Mary Ellen Mulvaney, 1746 Cows Road, requested that the Commission consider to demolish the structure 217 N Washington.

Barbara Templin, El Dorado Municipal Band, presented the band’s schedule for the summer of 2020. She asked if the Commission would consider financially supporting the 100th anniversary of the band in two years.

Commissioner Matt Guthrie asked if anyone had addressed 217 N Washington.

City Engineer Scott Rickard stated that there has been a significant history of violations with this property and it has been through municipal court. He stated that it will likely come before the Commission for demolition at some point.

Mayor Bill Young asked the City to consider how we could support the band in the future. He also asked that staff work to provide information on Riverview Park.

Commissioner Gregg Lewis asked if staff would consider lighting the Nick Badwey Sr. statue at North Main.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the City Commission minutes from April 20, 2020.

Approval of a Cereal Malt Beverage license for Prairie Trails Golf Course.

Commissioner Nick Badwey moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Commissioner Kendra Wilkinson seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5 – 0.

I-35/K-254/BOYER ROAD CONCEPTUAL STUDY AGREEMENT

City Engineer Scott Rickard stated that this intersection is awkward and hard to navigate for many individuals. He stated that as they have worked through the Industrial Park Master Plan and how we can be work ready, the City has discussed ways to address this intersection with the KTA, and KDOT. This group interviewed groups to provide a phased approach for addressing this issue. They have agreed to hire TranSystem and KDOT and KTA have requested that the City contribute \$50,000 to the cost of the study which is estimated at \$366,601. He stated that those funds will be taken from the Economic Development fund.

Mayor Bill Young confirmed that the cost to the City was \$50,000.

City Engineer Rickard stated that he was correct. He stated that the packet also includes the scope of services.

Commissioner Matt Guthrie asked if we have a say in the project.

City Engineer Rickard stated that they have been very open about allowing the City to participate and have input into the project and the study.

Commissioner Guthrie stated that he did not see Grizzly Development in this plan, he asked how it would be affected.

City Engineer Rickard stated that the study will allow them to consider all surrounding properties and how they can be served the best.

City Manager David Dillner stated that they will provide an option for only one interchange when they complete it.

Commissioner Nick Badwey stated that there is a lot of history with the turnpike in El Dorado and he thought the project would be very good.

Commissioner Gregg Lewis stated that he was very much in favor of the project as well to help with traffic coming east.

Commissioner Kendra Wilkinson moved to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Kansas Department of Transportation, and the Kansas Turnpike Association for studying the I-35, K-254, and K-196 interchange.

Commissioner Nick Badwey seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5 – 0.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH BAJILLION AGENCY FOR COMMUNITY BRANDING SERVICES

City Clerk Tabitha Sharp stated that the City Commission directed staff to begin a rebranding project in 2019. Staff sent out requests for proposals and received four in return. She stated that the CTC Board interviewed three of the four companies and would like to recommend the Bajillion Agency for the project. She stated that the company will provide research, brand and key message development, a strategic marketing plan and marketing elements for the 150th Anniversary of El Dorado. The project will be \$27,450 to start, and further items can be requested for an additional cost.

City Clerk Sharp stated that the Commission had requested that the project be done by September, but due to the current pandemic, staff are requesting an extension so that focus groups can be performed when the stay home order is lifted.

Commissioner Kendra Wilkinson stated that she was concerned about the cost. She asked if the funds in this department can be used for other items.

City Manager David Dillner stated that the City's Ordinance and the State Statute are vague, but these funds are typically only used for the purposes of bring visitors to El Dorado.

Commissioner Matt Guthrie moved to approve the proposal from Bajillion Agency and direct the City Manager to complete the contract.

Commissioner Gregg Lewis seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5 – 0.

PRAIRIE TRAILS GOLF COURSE RATES

City Manager David Dillner stated that staff have provided rates for Prairie Trails Golf Course. He reviewed the proposed rates. He stated that the monthly passholder rates are the same as what GreatLife was charging. He stated that daily rates are less than what GreatLife charged because they were trying to incentivize people to be members.

Commissioner Matt Guthrie asked if this rate was comparable to GreatLife because they could play at other courses and receive other benefits.

Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Wishart stated that those who are members now were paying these rates to play our course and others in the area. He stated that these rates are substantially less than when we operated the course previously. He stated that the walk up rates are consistent with others in the area.

Commissioner Kendra Wilkinson asked if they would honor passes that were purchased through GreatLife.

City Manager Dillner stated that GreatLife has agreed to pay the funds for those who had annual passes to the City of El Dorado. He stated that the monthly patrons will have to come in and complete paperwork prior to golfing this weekend.

Mayor Young asked if the decrease in daily rates would cause us to lose passholders.

Mr. Wishart stated that most of those paying a monthly rate are playing more often than what would be economical at the daily rate. He stated that staff will be calling GreatLife's member list to encourage them to continue the membership with the City.

Mayor Young asked if staff could track the membership information in order to see if we lose individuals and for what reason. He also asked if staff could talk to other municipal courses and work out an agreement to allow members to play at all courses.

Commissioner Nick Badwey moved to approve the passholder rates as provided.

Commissioner Matt Guthrie seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5 – 0.

Commissioner Wilkinson asked if the name of the course could be changed to El Dorado Municipal Golf Course. She stated that she felt that the change was needed to get away from the “country club” connotation.

Commissioner Guthrie asked if the perception would ever change.

Mayor Young stated that he was not opposed to changing the name and felt it was an opportunity to involve the community. He stated that maybe the citizens could be involved in the naming. He also asked that they take some time to consider it before making any changes.

Mayor Young asked if staff could put together a plan for moving forward on the golf course and perhaps a one sheet form that they could give to people.

Commissioner Wilkinson asked if it was staffed.

City Manager Dillner stated that it was partly staffed. He stated that the employees that went to GreatLife did not all come back to the City because of concerns with the changes in ownership. He stated that the City is still looking for an assistant greenskeeper and a golf course manager.

City Manager Dillner stated that when the course transferred to GreatLife, the 55 carts that went with it were in need of replacement. He stated that the City was considering buying versus leasing. Now a year later, the carts still need to be replaced. He stated that today we received information on leasing carts. He stated that we would lease 36 carts.

Mr. Wishart stated that of the 19 left, only three or four are in running order. He stated that we could trade them, sell as is, or spend some money to make usable.

Commissioner Guthrie asked if they could get 10 out of the not working 19.

Mr. Wishart stated that he was unsure of all of the issues with those carts.

Mayor Young asked why we were only getting 36 carts.

Mr. Wishart stated that in discussion with the previous staff, 36 was more than enough carts for most days. He stated that we have to trade in as many carts as we are leasing, the others we can do anything with.

City Manager Dillner stated that the annual payment for 36 carts is \$10,648.80 per year for four years. He stated that the company received several canceled orders due to the pandemic and that has allowed us to get a better bid.

Commissioner Lewis asked if it was the same company from before.

Mr. Wishart stated that EZ Go carts is the low bid and we also received a bid from M&M who owns Club Car for about \$20,000 per year.

Commissioner Nick Badwey moved to authorize the City Manager to sign a lease with Kansas Golf and Turf for 36 golf carts.

Commissioner Kendra Wilkinson seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5 – 0.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

COVID-19 Update

City Manager David Dillner stated that staff have returned this week and we are preparing to open the facilities according to the Governor's plan. He stated that the Governor's plan allows cities to open pools on May 18th. He stated that the CDC issued guidelines for opening pools including: a reduction in hours, swimming sessions, a separate cleaning crew between sessions, individuals coming to the pool should wear a mask while entering the facility, and all lifeguards should wear masks while on shift.

Commissioner Gregg Lewis asked if germs from bodily fluids such as urination are killed by the chemicals in the pool.

Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Wishart stated that depending on the location of the issue, they close the area down and treat it. He stated that it is believed that the chemicals would kill germs caused by the virus, but if someone were to get too close to another, transmission is possible.

Commissioner Matt Guthrie asked what needed to be cleaned.

Mr. Wishart stated that they have to clean any service that can be touched, rails, restrooms, slides, diving boards, and the deck. He stated that there is a chemical that can be used in a sprayer to clean.

Commissioner Lewis asked what staff are recommending.

Mr. Wishart stated that they would recommend groups of 30 swimmers and they would recommend closing the high dive and the small slide. He stated that many surrounding cities are recommending the closure of swimming pools due to the issues with cleaning and limiting attendance.

Commissioner Wilkinson asked what would happen to splash parks.

Mr. Wishart stated that currently splash parks will be considered the same as playground equipment and not open until later.

Commissioner Guthrie asked if they could just open in the final phase.

Mr. Wishart stated that the challenge will be keeping employees for only the possibility of employment.

Commissioner Badwey asked if the recommendation was to wait until June 15th.

Mr. Wishart stated that he did not feel ready to make a recommendation at this time, he was only providing information for the Commission to consider.

Commissioner Badwey asked if they waited to make a decision until the next meeting if staff would still be available.

Mr. Wishart stated that it was possible. He stated that if they open with smaller numbers, they could operate with a smaller staff.

Commissioner Badwey asked if waiting to make the decision would help or hurt.

Mr. Wishart stated that he could communicate to those waiting to be a lifeguard that they would have an answer after the next meeting.

Commissioner Badwey stated he would like to wait and make a decision at the next meeting.

Commissioner Lewis asked if the beaches at the lake were open.

Commissioner Guthrie stated that the old beach was open.

City Manager Dillner stated that he would also like the Commission to consider baseball and softball.

Mr. Wishart stated that the Heights League, under which the City plays baseball and softball, has decided to meet on May 13th to make a decision on whether they would play. He stated that four or five programs in Wichita that are profit driven are going to open. He stated that other members of the Heights League are discussing not playing. If they do play, the season will be compressed due to time constraints. He stated that the groups who are playing are extending the dug outs, changing rules regarding runners on base and the number of umpires.

Commissioner Matt Guthrie asked about the Broncos season.

Mr. Wishart stated that they have postponed the start until June 15th. He stated that right now in order to comply with the governor's order, we have not put out the necessary equipment.

Commissioner Guthrie stated that he was in favor of trying to have a season.

Commissioner Wilkinson stated that she felt that the players and coaches would try to follow the rules, but the spectators would be difficult. She did not feel that it was possible.

Commissioner Lewis stated that he didn't feel like they had enough information.

Mr. Wishart stated that depending on the decision of the Heights League, there might not be enough teams to play. He also felt that it was difficult to consider inviting teams from other cities who might be from hot spots. He stated that he was also concerned about our staff being subjected to the virus.

Mayor Young stated that he would like to wait and get information from the Heights League before making a decision.

Temporary Suspension of Work Sessions

City Manager David Dillner stated that he would recommend starting the meetings again at the end of May.

The City Commission agreed.

Sponsorships and Advertising on Municipal Assets

City Manager David Dillner stated that staff are asking if the City Commission would consider selling advertising space in order to offset costs in our facilities such as painting the water tower or ball field improvements. He stated that if the Commission was amenable to the conversation, staff would provide a proposal to the Commission for approval.

Mayor Bill Young stated that he had requested that the City Manager bring this up for consideration. He stated that everyone is running on a tight budget, and felt that allowing advertisement would help provide new revenue.

The City Commission agreed.

REPORTS

CITY COMMISSION

Commissioner Nick Badwey stated that the library has decided to open for curbside pickup and returns on May 18th with restricted hours. They plan to tentatively reopen the library with restrictions on June 1st and hopefully reopen once all restrictions have lifted. He stated that they are attempting to offer a summer reading program virtually.

EL DORADO CITY COMMISSION MEETING

May 4, 2020

Commissioner Matt Guthrie stated that he has received some calls about the work at Denver and Olive. He stated that the temporary fill on the weekend was not done well. He asked staff if they could talk to them and ask them to do a better job of filling those.

Commissioner Guthrie asked if the City should be helping the Wichita group do more for the Tesla plant.

City Manager David Dillner stated that in a national recruitment process, it's best to have one voice so there isn't confusion on the message.

CITY MANAGER

City Manager David Dillner stated that McConnell AFB is going to be doing a flyover on May 6th to honor first responders, hospital workers and military personnel.

City Manager Dillner stated that the USACE is going to be initiating an update to the master plan for the lake. He stated that public comments are being requested via e-mail.

Commissioner Matt Guthrie asked to involve the marina owner in our response.

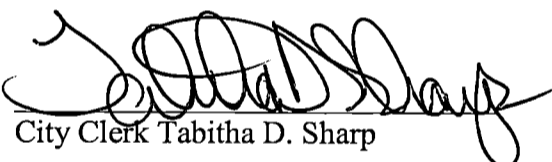
Mayor Bill Young stated that he did not want to involve just one business owner, he thought the Commission should discuss it before others are brought to the table.

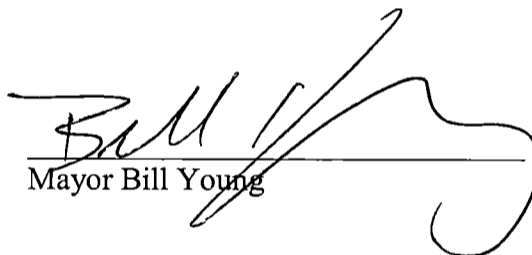
ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Nick Badwey moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Commissioner Kendra Wilkinson seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5 – 0.


City Clerk Tabitha D. Sharp


Mayor Bill Young