

Golf Commission Minutes

Tuesday, January 14, 2020 12:00pm

Waverly Civic Center

Members Present: Abram, Hankner, Reusche, Thorson

Members Absent: B. Jones

Staff Present: Riordan, Miller, D. Jones, David

Council Present: Mayor Hoffman, Glaser

Visitors Present: None

Summary of Formal Action: The meeting was called to order at 12:02 pm by Vice Chairperson Thorson.

Motion: Approve Nov. minutes as presented.

01-20	Moved: Abram	Seconded: Thorson
	Yes: 4	No: 0 Absent: 1

Before Regular Business Riordan introduced Councilperson Kris Glaser to the Commission. He will be the new liaison to the Golf Commission. Riordan also introduced Mayor Hoffman and new Commission member Jerry Hankner. Mr. Glaser and Mr. Hankner will have formal introductions at the next Commission meeting.

Regular Business:

1. Election of Officers

Thorson commented that she had been in communication with B. Jones and he had stated that he would be happy to continue as Chairperson for the Golf Course Commission if nominated and elected. Reusche nominated B. Jones. There were no more nominations.

Motion: Approve B. Jones as Chairperson for the Golf Course Commission

02-20	Moved: Reusche	Seconded: Abram
	Yes: 4	No: 0 Absent: 1

Abram nominated Thorson as Vice Chairperson. There were no other nominations.

Motion: Approve Thorson as Vice Chairperson.

03-20	Moved: Abram	Seconded: Reusche
	Yes: 4	No: 0 Absent: 1

2. Proposed Budget

Riordan read over the proposed budget. He mentioned that it is pretty similar to last year. The key additions to the budget are the rental of a stump grinder and the purchase of an electric power washer. Renting a stump grinder will allow Miller to grind the stumps on the Golf Course instead of having it contracted. Mayor Hoffman asked if the City had ever considered purchasing a stump grinder with how many trees that have been taken down in previous years. Riordan said that it may have made sense to purchase a stump grinder a few years ago, but now most of the right of way ash trees are down and hopefully we won't be continuing to remove so many trees/year in the future. Reusche asked what staff

uses to clean equipment now. D. Jones said currently they are just using a hose. Thorson thinks that a power washer will be a good addition.

Motion: Approve Budget to Council as presented

04-20

Moved: Reusche

Seconded: Abram

Yes: 4

No: 0

Absent: 1

3. Golf Cart Attendant Position

David reported that he had been working on creating a new position at the Pro Shop. He said that there is not much in terms of business or sales that gets done between 6:30 and 9:30 pm. However, someone still needs to be available to collect cart keys. David is proposing hiring someone at \$7.50/hour to cover this time span instead of paying an attendant a higher wage. This new position would be responsible for collecting cart keys, cleaning carts, inspecting carts, watering plants, etc. Reusche commented he thought the new position sounded like a great idea.

Motion: To Approve A new position known as Golf Cart Attendant.

05-20

Moved: Abram

Seconded: Hankner

Yes: 4

No: 0

Absent: 1

Director's Report: Riordan updated the Commission to the news that fair will be moving from Memorial Park to the east side of Waverly. Even though the move is a couple of years away, now is the time to begin thinking about what could be done with the area. It has long been talked about adding a driving range. Thorson commented that the Waverly Golf Course has been instrumental at getting tournaments. The course is very viable to the City. A driving range would be a great addition for teaching purposes and a spot for golfers to warm up. Reusche would like to see a learning center to be included with a driving range. Possibly have a sand trap and a par 3 area. Riordan reminded everyone that there will also be plans for a park area and aquatic center. Assuming things go forward, Riordan envisions a panel made up of a Golf Commission member, Leisure Services Commission member, citizens, and City staff. David will be attending a trade show next week and will be researching what other courses have and some questions to ask in the future.

Riordan thanked Thorson for the job she had done for the Golf Commission's presentation to Council. She did a nice job and the Council was very receptive.

Glaser added that having the course open on the warmer days in December was well received.

Course Staff Report: D. Jones said staff is exploring ways to replace trees that they have cut down or will be cutting down, mostly ash or scotch pines. Staff is exploring grants and Riordan mentioned asking Trees Forever for a contribution. Hoffman asked if avenues had been explored for moving trees from other City property. Riordan said that yes, that had been considered but the two newest properties that had been acquired have trees that are too large to move. Hoffman also wondered about contacting contractors to see if they would be willing to notify the City if a tree was to be taken down if it was a tree that could possibly be moved instead. D. Jones and Miller mentioned maybe more so with developers who may need trees removed.

Abram asked if #1 green would be affected by the construction on 4th St. SW. Hoffman said that there is a neighborhood meeting on Jan. 20th at 6:00 p.m. Hankner will attend. Another concern is signage during construction to get golfers to the course.

Pro Report: David reported that when the course was open on Dec. 22 there were 41 golfers. Next week he will be at the trade show in Florida to set up deals for the coming year. He also had a meeting set up with Cobblestone hotel to talk about a stay and play program. This Christmas season saw almost \$2000 more in sales. The website change over is also complete. This allows gift certificates to be purchased online. David is finalizing the 2020 schedule. He is planning 4 couples' events throughout the summer with theme nights.

Chairperson's Report: None

Communications:

- WAGOCO: None
- Sledding hill is not open at this time. It is set up, but there has not been enough snow yet. When it opens it will be posted on the City Facebook page.
- Thorson reported on an article that she read from Golf Digest that included ideas on how to attract and retain golfers.
- Riordan reported that Mark Poehler who had worked at the Golf Course for 17 years passed away on Dec. 3rd.
- Reusche commented that he appreciates the staff on the cost-conscious effort that they are taking to make sure that the Course still looks as great as it does and is run efficiently on a tighter budget.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2020, Noon at the Civic Center.

Adjournment:

Motion: To Adjourn

06-20

Moved: Hankner

Seconded: Abram

Yes: 4

No: 0

Absent: 1

Meeting adjourned at 1:06 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Garret Riordan, Leisure Services Director