

CITY OF ELKHORN
Finance & Judicial Committee Minutes
First Floor Conference Room, 9 S. Broad Street, Elkhorn, Wisconsin

March 12, 2018

The Finance and Judicial Committee was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Alderman McClory, followed by roll call.

Roll Call

Present: Aldermen Scott McClory, Tom Myrin, Tim Shiroda

Also present: Alderman Cathy Bensaid, City Administrator Sam Tapson, City Clerk Cairie Virrueta, Finance Director James Heilman, Fire Chief Rod Smith, DPW Manager Matthew Lindstrom

Reconsideration of Babe Mann Park Improvements

Alderman Myrin said he felt bad voting no to improvements at Babe Mann. He said the park really needs help and asked that the Council take another look at it. He said the park doesn't need a plan just funds set aside for it. He said if the City dredges the lake, the ski team will put in two docks with no charge to the City. He said it will open up more programming for Wendy. He said the City could put in sand volleyball, dredge the lake, repave the path and do a new building and suggested the City spend \$500,000, approximately. Alderman Shiroda didn't disagree that things needed to be done but he questioned where the City would find funds in the budget on something that isn't an emergency. Alderman Bensaid agreed. Alderman McClory said he has tried to have something done at Babe Mann for years, but he can see both sides of the issue. He wanted to open up the lake to swimming. He said the City could remove the rip rap and concrete but didn't need to put sand in yet. He wanted to find money to get the first step done and get the docks in. Alderman Shiroda asked about the history with the lake. Two children drowned at it within a month of each other. Alderman McClory said the lake could be posted "swim at own risk", like other lakes in the area. He wants to see something done this year. Administrator Tapson advised against situational spending. He said plans were necessary for improvements, consulting the Rec Director and considering maintenance costs for any improvements. He said removal of the rip rap will allow the ski boat waves to erode the shoreline. The Council prioritized Babe Mann low on the capital improvements list it created. Administrator Tapson suggested including the park in the budget and doing it in steps over five years and considering what is the best use of the park, passive or active? Park planners will find the best use of the park to serve the community. Alderman Bensaid said her constituents questioned why the City spent so much money on parks and the pool when it let streets and City buildings fall apart? She said the Fire/EMS staffing issue also needed to be considered. The park planner was already budgeted for this year. Alderman McClory motioned to engage the park planner immediately as it is already budgeted. Alderman Myrin had a hard time spending \$20,000 on a planner. Alderman Bensaid asked if the old plan could be used. Alderman Myrin said he would like to hear from the Rec Director before making decisions. Action was deferred until the next meeting. It was suggested that the Rec Director bring the Advisory Committee Chair to the next meeting.

Adjourn into Closed Session

Pursuant to Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(e) "Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session" regarding TID #4 Right-of-Way Acquisition. **Motion (Shiroda/Myrin) to adjourn. Voice vote, all approved, motion carried.** Adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

Reconvened into Open Session

The committee reconvened into open session at 5:22 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion (Myrin/Shiroda) to adjourn at 5:22 p.m.

Cairie L. Virrueta

City Clerk