

Golf Commission Minutes
Tuesday, January 8, 2008 5:00 pm
Waverly City Hall Administration Conference Room

Members Present: Lutz, Striepe, Tyler, VanDaalen
Members Absent: Klamfoth
Staff Present: Ray, Snook, Mason
Council Present: Ribich
Visitors Present: Waverly Newspapers – Clint

Summary of Formal Action: The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by Chairperson Van Daalen.

Motion: Approve December minutes as written.

01-08	Moved: Lutz	Seconded: Striepe
Yes: 4	No: 0	Absent: 1

Regular Business:

1. Election of Officers

Motion: To elect Van Daalen as Chair for 2008-09.

02-08	Moved: Lutz	Seconded: Striepe
Yes: 4	No: 0	Absent: 1

Motion: To elect Tyler as Vice Chair for 2008-09.

03-08	Moved: Striepe	Seconded: Lutz
Yes: 4	No: 0	Absent: 1

2. Review of Golf Course Expansion Project

Paul Miller of PMDI, Inc. reviewed the project. The bulk of the project is in the new #15 and #16. The project includes a natural looking stream, 3 ponds of different elevations and a small pond with a 5' waterfall. There water is circulated by pumping from the lowest pond to the small pond. Filling the ponds will be from the irrigation system. There irrigation plans are 95% done with the par 4 utilizing a 4 row system and the par 3 sometimes at single row due to its layout. Features on the outside include mounding and tree planting. The yardage is 347 from the back tees on the par 4 and a strong 230 yards on the par 3. Other parts of the improvements are back tees 6, 8, and 15 (old numbers). Miller thinks this will be an attractive project to bidders, straight forward and no golfers to dodge.

Tyler asked if the current irrigation system can water 20 holes. Snook responded yes but there could be problems. Miller explained there is a pump station upgrade in the alternate bids in the project. Ideally, a new upgrade should be on line for construction but to do that would require ordering the pump station upgrade now to be installed in the spring. Miller mentioned that the

area of construction can be watered during the day when growing in while the remainder of the course would be watered during the night.

Snook reported that he has found a vendor that would sell supply pumps at a lower rate than the estimate. He has also talked to Waverly Light and Power and they will install the required power source for the new pumps at no cost. The payback on the energy savings is 8 years. The pump station would be located in the existing structure. He reiterated the importance of the irrigation system. Tyler agrees the pump station is essential to the project and the course.

Ray reminded the Commission that the Hospital did not pay for a pump station for the course. They paid for the course expansion. However, they also stated that once we have the funds, they don't want to be involved with how the funds are spent. The pump station upgrade is currently in the project estimate. The estimate is just that, an educated guess based upon recent bids, the only good numbers are the bid numbers.

Cart paths were discussed that there is not a need for tee to green on the new holes. Miller will reduce the paths. All of the costs should be in the estimate so nothing is forgotten, even if it has been paid. Miller will have a complete, from the beginning updated estimate.

Drainage was discussed. The original thought was to replace the 6" drainage line with a 12" line. However, with the current situation of the outlet of water over the ground rather than into the waterway east of #5 does not justify the upgrade to a 12" line. The drainage will still happen but will still be slow. The new land should not put anymore water to drain, and the water over the new turf should slow it down rather than over a tilled field. The concrete structure on private property in the waterway is an impediment to the natural flow of the water. So far, the property owner has not been willing to work with the City on this drainage issue. The 12" line can be done at a later date.

The Commission wants the consultant to add the design fees, 5 year maintenance, split rail fence and the pump station into the project estimated costs budget. He should adjust the costs of the electrical installation, and cart paths and use the new figures for the supply pumps from Snook. The Commission is comfortable with integrity of the project presented to the public and having the pump station in the project.

Snook reported if a notice to proceed with the project is coming from the Hospital, it will be after their January Board of Trustees meeting currently scheduled for January 28. Ray had discussed with Crayne to proceed with the project schedule to review the project with the City Council and set the public hearing at the January 21 Council meeting.

Ray suggested communication to the Health Center Board for salvage of the area prior to the hospital construction. Greens turf, irrigation heads, trees, and split rail fence can be salvaged to be used on the course.

Motion: To accept the project as presented for review at the January 21 City Council meeting with the suggested adjustments to the cost estimate to include the alternatives in the project.

04-08	Moved: Lutz	Seconded: Striepe
Yes: 4	No: 0	Absent: 1

Motion: To recommend to the City Council to set the Public Hearing and publish notice for the City Council meeting of February 4, 2008 at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers.

05-08	Moved: Striepe	Seconded: Lutz
Yes: 4	No: 0	Absent: 1

Lutz would like to enter documentation into the Minutes regarding the discussion at the City Council meeting about his reappointment to the Commission. Staff will include his document and attach them to the December minutes.

The Commission would like to receive a copy of the final cost estimate and the Staff Summary of the Golf Course Expansion Project prior to the Council Meeting on the 21st.

Next Meeting: Next meeting is set for February 12, 5:00 pm at City Hall unless a noon meeting is available.

Adjournment: Adjournment was at 7:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tab Ray
Leisure Services Director
Commission Secretary

1/8/08

After watching the January 7, 2008 Waverly city council meeting, I would like to submit this letter into the official minutes of the January 8 Golf Commission meeting.

First of all I would like to thank Mayor Ackerman for asking me to serve a 2nd term on the Commission. I have enjoyed being involved and the work the commission has done over my three years.

Thank you for the kind words of support by the Mayor, council members Ribich and Grace. I appreciate the six "yes" votes by the council. Their "yes" votes display their confidence in me to do a good job in doing what is good for the citizens of Waverly and the patrons who use and enjoy our golf course. And I do my best to justify their support.

While I was not surprised my councilman Liddle's opposition to my appointment, I would like to make some comments in my own defense. I have spoken to Mr. Liddle face to face 3 times in my LIFE. One time was on a non-golf course matter. Once was in the fall of 2006 when I was contacted by Mr. Liddle to provide information and discuss the talks between the Golf Commission and the Waverly Health Center concerning the proposed land exchange and new hole construction costs. When I agreed to the meeting I asked chairman Larry VanDaalen to be in attendance as well to provide another voice in the matter. This meeting was held outside the **Konditorei** at the Wartburg College library and lasted over an hour and we stayed until Mr. Liddle had all his questions answered. I had forgotten about the third time until I checked the golf commission minutes for the past 3 years. I hadn't remembered Mr. Liddle attending any commission meetings, he has attended one in that period, December 11, 2006. I have included the minutes from the REGUALR BUSINESS minutes:

Regular Business:

1. Recommendation to City Council on 2007 Golf Course Fees and Charges

Ray began by reviewing the suggested fee changes and the revenue effects. These included the Young Adult/Senior/ Junior green fee increase to \$14, the daily trail fee increased to \$14, the increased to \$100. He also stated the Commission might consider an inflationary increase of 2- 3% on the Season Passes.

Discussion began about the Wartburg team practices and the High School teams. VanDaalen suggested that he and staff talk to Wartburg about a green fee and invoicing at the end of the season. Klamfoth thinks the free rounds for the High School needs to be noted in the budget. Lutz mentioned that it should also be noted that High School golf teams volunteer on projects for the course. Ribich was interested in what increase in outings we had this past year and that it should be an emphasis.

Motion: To recommend to the City Council to set the golf fees for the 2007 season at the suggested levels with season tickets increasing by 3% and daily as recommended.

23-06 Moved: Lutz Seconded: Klamfoth
Yes: 4 No: 0 Absent: 1

2. Review of 07-08 Proposed Budget.

Snook reviewed the Golf Maintenance budget. The budget has no new initiatives except for the increase in season pay scale and the effect on the salaries and wages. It is not currently known about the effect the reorganization of the Department in terms of the Administrative Allocation. There were general questions about the budget and the Commission suggested adding \$1,000 to the Building and Grounds for fairway seed. Ray reviewed the revenues and stated the revenue increase before the additional revenue changes was about \$8,000. He will need to refigure the revenues effects. Ray then went into the Pro Shop budget. He stated the budget was about the same as in the past with the exception of the computer software and hardware for the Fore Reservation system being proposed.

Motion: To recommend to the City Council the 2007-2008 budget as reviewed.

23-06 Moved: Klamfoth Seconded: Lutz
Yes: 4 No: 0 Absent: 1

Liddle asked about the tax asking. Ray said he would report the amount of projected subsidy after the expenditures and revenues were refigured.

3. Discussion of Manager Position.

Ray reviewed the job position of Pro Shop Manager. He said the position has changed to requiring some marketing, computer, and management background. Klamfoth stated that the current management is the best at hospitality and customer service. Ray reported that JR has said if he is back next year it would be his last.

Murray suggested that with the possibility of using current funds, a PGA Pro could be available. Ray will contact the PGA to find out the options and talk to JR.

So I have spoken three times and I do not know when or how I have been “un-professional” with Mr. Liddle or anyone one concerning the golf course and it’s operation. I would like to point out the 3 years I have been on the commission the subsidy has been or projected to be:

04-05 \$78,795 – commission member for ½ of budget year.
05-06 \$66,182
06-07 \$73,651
07-08 Projection \$65,000

Disproving Mr. Liddle’s claim I not happy unless the subsidy is \$75,000 - \$100,000.

Finally, I take seriously my charge to serve on the Commission and to do what’s best for all. I believe I have done my best to keep the delicate balance of the amount of the annual subsidy, the fee structure -fair and appealing to golfers and to maintain the course's reputation as a top quality course.

Sincerely,
Tony Lutz