

**Mount Vernon
Finance Committee
Parks & Enrichment Services Committee
Minutes
April 27, 2022**

Councilmember Hudson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Boudreau, Councilmembers Beaton, Brocksmith, Carías, Hudson, Hulst, Molenaar and Morales

1. Meeting minutes from March 23, 2022, were approved.

2. Finance – Doug Volesky

a. Mount Vernon Library Commons Project – Funding Plan:

- i. The latest projection of the project is just under \$48.6 million, with an additional \$2.6 million in alternates to be added dependent on bid and funding.
- ii. So far, the City was awarded \$10.7 million in local, state, and federal grants.
- iii. The City is in the process of applying for a low interest federal loan through the Department of Transportation, Build America Bureau in the amount of \$23 million which will be paid off using the City's awarded LIFT funding (Local Infrastructure Financing Tool) program.
- iv. Without any additional grants or funding, the project is about \$10.2M short.
- v. The City is still applying for several different grants, and they listed out several other possibilities for other funding to offset this shortage.
- vi. Council will need to decide on what to do if a shortage does happen so that the project can stay on schedule.
- vii. Some alternatives to cover a shortage could be using capital reserves, CDBG loan, going out for bonds paid for by using property tax banked capacity.
- viii. There will be other meetings throughout May to address this with a decision needed by the end of May to stay on schedule with a June bid release.

3. Parks and Enrichment Services – Jennifer Berner

- a. Staff reviewed the Parks and Enrichment Services Department Fee Schedule that went into effect in January.
 - i. Staff showed the differences between the new and old fees for baseball and soccer field rentals, Sherman Anderson ballpark, Special Event fees, picnic shelter rentals, the Lodge and Vaux Center.
 - ii. The key points with playfield rentals are:
 1. Priority system went into place with the first priority going to youth recreational sports leagues, then select teams, adult use and commercial use.
 2. An application window was put into place, so all groups have an opportunity to apply for space. It is not first-come first-serve.

3. Fees were adjusted based on the group renting the fields with the lower fees for youth recreation activities and higher fees for adults and commercial use. In the past there was on flat fee of \$15 per hour.
- iii. Sherman Anderson
 1. Fees were adjusted to an hourly rate instead of a per game rate.
- iv. Special Event Fees
 1. Created a low impact fee rate for smaller events
- v. Picnic Shelter Rentals
 1. Fees stayed the same and added Lions Park shelter as a rentable space
 2. No longer charge a damage deposit
- vi. Lodge, Vaux Center, and Recreation Building
 1. Changed all rentals to an hourly rate instead of a per day rental fee. This provides for a more affordable rental for people just needing to use the facility for 3-4 hours
 2. Reduced the security deposit for Vaux Center
 3. Provide a Facility Monitor for each rental to check-in and check-out renters, monitor the event and troubleshoot any issues.
- b. 25th Street Playground and Little Mtn Improvements Dedications:
 - i. Little Mountain Improvements Celebration will be held on Friday, May 13 at 5:30pm – 7pm at the Little Mountain Lower Parking Lot. Celebrating all the great improvements to the site.
 - ii. 25th Street Playground Celebration will be held on Friday, May 20 at 5:30pm. Celebrating the new playground structure that was installed.

4. Miscellaneous, for the good of the order

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Submitted by:

Doug Volesky

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