



CITY COUNCIL

Work Session

Meeting Report Monday, May 21, 2012

Council Members Attending: F. Acosta, M. Goodman-Hinnershitz, S. Marmarou, D. Reed, R. Corcoran, D. Sterner

Others Attending: L. Kelleher, C. Younger, R. Natale, E. Lloyd

Mr. Acosta called the Work Session to order. Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz provided background on the review of the Rec Commission and the receipt of rental fees. She stated that this month she thought it would be best for all Councilors to be present.

Rec Commission Revenue

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz introduced Rec Commission Executive Director Daphne Klahr and Rec Commission members Eddie Moran and John Santoro. Ms. Kelleher distributed documents showing the City's intent to provide the rental revenue to the Rec Commission. She stated that the City allocated \$488K on the expense side and \$122K on the revenue side. She noted that the \$122 in revenue is an estimate and that the revenues in the City's 2012 budget are zeroed out, which shows that the City did not intend to collect these revenues. She noted the need to amend the agreement with the Rec Commission.

Ms. Klahr highlighted the budget adopted by the Rec Commission, which includes the Recreation rental revenue that was zeroed out in the City's 2012 budget. She stated that the Rec Commission will run four playground programs this summer in addition to a volleyball program, the tennis program and other activities. She inquired why the City is now making an issue of the rental fees. She stated that the Rec Commission processes rental requests and inquired why they would process these requests if they were not going to receive the revenue.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz noted that Mr. Spencer was very aware that the City intended to allow the Rec Commission to receive the rental fees as he actively participated in the peer-to-

peer meetings that set the foundation for the Rec Commission.

Mr. Lloyd stated that the Administration is examining all financial obligations to outside organizations. He agreed with the need to amend the agreement to include the rental fees.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz suggested excluding the Bandshell from Rec Commission control as the Public Works staff is required to provide support for events at the Bandshell and the fee is based on covering that support. She agreed with the need to clarify the agreement with the Rec Commission.

Mr. Acosta noted the need for the Mayor to express his position.

There was a discussion about the collection of the rental fees that are managed by the Rec Commission.

Mr. Marmarou suggested developing a list of donors and the amount donated. He also suggested setting the field rental at a rate that includes the preparation of the field.

Mr. Klahr stated that Alvernia is sending 425 freshmen students to clean, paint, etc parks as designated by the Rec Commission. She also described Alvernia's recent project at 3rd and Spruce.

Mr. Marmarou noted the inability of groups to rent the baseball fields in Angelica. Ms. Klahr stated that Alvernia rehabbed the fields to professional standards and they control the use of the fields.

Mr. Acosta described his recent positive experience at 3rd and Spruce.

Mr. Lloyd was asked to arrange a meeting with the Mayor about the Rec Commission and the rental fees.

Ms. Klahr noted that a group that recently rented 11th and Pike for a carnival illegally tapped into the City's electrical and water utilities. She suggested applying the Admissions Fee for these events. Mr. Acosta asked Ms. Klahr to follow up on the use of the electric and water service.

Mr. Younger inquired if the Admissions Tax can be applied to events at the City's Parks. He stated that the Law Department is researching this issue.

Automated Communications Platform

Mr. Kersley stated that the Act 47 Recovery Plan requires the City to increase its use of IT platforms along with improving communications between departments and divisions. He

stated that he coordinated meetings around this need and is working to successfully cross pollinate compliance issues with properties. He provided examples. Council congratulated Mr. Kersley for his work on this issue.

Quality of Life Ticketing Program

Mr. Lloyd stated that the report is not prepared. This issue will be deferred until the June work session.

Council Staff Report

The Council Staff Report is attached to the agenda.

As no other business was brought to the table the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Linda A. Kelleher CMC, City Clerk