

JOINT CITY COUNCIL AND PARKS AND RECREATION
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 24, 2021

There was a joint meeting of the Warrensburg City Council and Parks and Recreation Board on Wednesday, February 24, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Community Center Multi-Purpose Room AB at 445 East Gay Street. Roll was called as follows, Present were: Brooks, Holmberg, Lund, Kushner, Jacobs. Absent: none.

The adoption of the agenda was considered. Lund moved to adopt the agenda. Yes: Brooks, Holmberg, Lund, Kushner, Jacobs. No: none.

Parks and Recreation Board President Erica Jones Collins thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting. She said she would like to discuss the services provided by the City to the Parks Department. Jones Collins asked what the costs are to the City to provide Information Technology (IT) services and Human Resources (HR) support services. Jones Collins said she knows this information cannot be provided this evening.

Jones Collins said the Parks Department is hoping to work together with the City on mutual ground. She said they have looked at how other entities around them are operating. Jones Collins said rather than through Resolution, a contractual agreement might be a better option.

Council member Lund said the City is concerned about basic policies and procedures that have not been followed. He said from a HR perspective, the City has concerns about a possible lawsuit. Council member Lund said the City wants Parks and Recreation to be successful, but if using City services policies must be followed.

Parks Board member Dan Baldrige said he has not been on the board long but does have HR experience. He expressed concerns about possible City HR problems. There was discussion of prior issues between the Parks Department and the City. New Parks and Recreation Board member John Paul Suchecki said communication seems to be part of the problem. Collins Jones said better training policies and procedures would be helpful. She said Parks and Recreation has a huge staff with a large turnover.

Council member Brooks and Parks Board member Baldrige said some of these procedures can be improved with better communication. Parks and Recreation Director Danielle Fesler said the department does want to work with the City.

Council member Kushner said he knows the big problem has been the paperwork and the details. He said this whole situation should not have gone this far. He said policy has not been followed and the paperwork was not submitted. Kushner said a lot has depended on scheduling, and this issue should be able to be fixed.

Parks Operations Superintendent Jeff Coleman said those working in the Parks Department did not receive training for human resources even though money had been budgeted several years ago. He said often those filling out forms make mistakes, and no training is provided. Coleman said he has heard tonight that people want to work together and that is what should happen. Coleman said we need to move forward and make it right for the citizens of Warrensburg.

There was no further discussion in the open meeting.

Lund moved to close pursuant to Section 610.021 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri, relating to:

- (13) Individually identifiable personnel records, performance ratings or records pertaining to employees or applicants for employment.

The meeting was adjourned to the closed.



Attest:

Cindy Gabel
Cindy Gabel, City Clerk

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bryan Jacobs".

Bryan Jacobs, Mayor