

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

A special meeting of the LeRoy City Council was held Thursday, February 19, 2015, at 6:00 PM at the LeRoy Community Center with the following members present: Mayor Jennifer Gumbel, Council Members Ashley Huntley, Gene Miller, Kathleen Gottschalk, and City Clerk Patty White. Council Member Justin Brandau and Maintenance Supervisor John Jones were absent. Others in attendance included Grant Lunning, Al Hodgdon, and Elaine Mills. Mayor Gumbel read the due call for this special meeting and called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Miller handed out a compilation of pool financial information; the information for this compilation was from reports submitted from Elaine Mills and the L-O School. Huntley questioned what can be done to increase revenue for the pool so the board is not in this position every year. Ms. Mills replied many different ideas have been tried. She noted the pool board has made tremendous strides in getting the pool more profitable since the pool board took over operations.

Gumbel noted she has heard from constituents that the pool should be a profitable entity, just like any other business, or the pool should be closed. Gumbel noted she doesn't see the pool in that light; she sees the pool as an amenity for the community and surrounding area. It was noted there are ongoing maintenance issues at the pool; these issues will continue. Mr. Lunning commented that the pool will never make money; most pools in surrounding communities don't make money. They are considered amenities for the community. Mills noted since the pool board has taken over and the 501(c)3 is in place, she has been able to write grants.

Huntley questioned how long the pool board sees the pool surviving. The board replied the pool will continue to be open and operational at least through this newest fundraising campaign. Ms. Mills noted she has an issue with getting enough life guards and keeping the life guards; she doesn't have the numbers of guards the pool used to have.

Miller questioned how many hours Ms. Mills works. He noted the job description states this a half-time job. Ms. Mills noted she usually works approximately 30 hours per week. She is responsible for the general maintenance of the pool, scheduling the guards, and the bookkeeping for the pool. Maintenance issues and the bookkeeping used to be done by school staff prior to the pool board taking over. It was noted the school still maintains the building itself; any pool maintenance items are the responsibility of the pool. Gumbel noted that the pay rate for a half-time position is more than what the city maintenance supervisor and city clerk make, but when she sees the hours worked at 30 hours per week average, she doesn't see such an issue with the rate of pay. She would like to see the pool board change the job description to better reflect the number of hours being worked. Gumbel felt better about the request for additional funding for the pool since the rate of pay and hours have been addressed.

Mr. Hodgdon noted the pool board needs to address all the things Ms. Mills does and make her more job responsibilities more visible to the public; these job responsibilities include grant writing, pool maintenance issues, guard scheduling, plus the bookkeeping.

Gumbel questioned the council if they are in favor of increasing the city contribution to the pool for the next five years. Miller questioned if the school has been approached to increase their contribution to the pool. He also questioned where the funds would come from if the city were to increase their funding for 2015 since the city budget is already set. White provided some information as to where the budget could be amended to allow this increase in funding for 2015. Motion by Miller to commit to \$20,000 per year beginning in 2016 and continuing this contribution for the next three years (2016, 2017, 2018). Second by Huntley. Gumbel noted she would like to see \$5000 moved from the Trailhead Capital Outlay and increase the contribution to \$20,000 in 2015, too. On a roll call of votes to the original motion, Gottschalk, Miller, and Huntley voted aye. Gumbel cast a nay vote. The motion carried 3-1.

Mr. Lunning thanked the council for this appropriation of funds and appreciates the support of the community and the city for the pool.

Being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Gottschalk, second by Miller at 6:50 PM.

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Jennifer Gumbel, Mayor

Attest:

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Patty A. White, City Clerk-Treasurer