MINUTES
BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE
SPRINGFIELD-GREENE COUNTY PARK BOARD
Monday, February 4, 2013, 5:30 p.m.
Park Board Administrative Offices, 1923 N. Weller, Springfield, Missouri

I. ROLL CALL

John Price, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Howard Garrett, Paula Glossip, Kevin Hogan, Sarah McCallister, John Price, Chair

Members Absent: Matt Bailey, Jerry Clark, Phyllis Ferguson, Tim Shryack

Park Board Staff: Bob Belote, Matt Coats, Mike Crocker, Jeff Cumley, Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Karen Herron, Jerry Mitchell, Tom Moore, Miles Park, Kim Reser, John Waldo, Lana Woolsey

II. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED FY 2013-2014 BUDGET

Mr. John Price, Chair, thanked the Park Board Staff for their preparation of the proposed budget. The Park Board members expressed appreciation that the budget materials presented were easy to review and understand.

Mr. Bob Belote stated that the FY 2013-2014 budget cycle marks the second year that Parks has experienced financial sustainability. As with the current budget cycle, Parks no longer receives any General Fund subsidy from the City of Springfield. Five years ago, Parks received more than 1.8 million dollars in subsidy support from the City of Springfield. Services provided for through past City financial support have not been lost, but have been restored where possible and funded through other dedicated Parks funding sources.

Mr. Belote stated that this year's current budget brought the transition of the 2006 Greene County Parks Sales Tax from a ¼ cent allocated to parks and stormwater capital projects to 1/8 cents for ongoing operations and maintenance of the park projects that were implemented during the initial five-year collection period. The Park Board has made a commitment to the community to provide for the ongoing maintenance and stewardship of those park facilities, programs, and services that were approved by the voters.

Mr. Belote stated that the FY 2013-2014 budget cycle was reviewed at the various management levels over the past three to four months in order to develop a list of position and capital priorities. The new and reclassified positions, new initiatives, and

capital expenditures were funded through reallocated funds such as one-time expenditures spent during this current budget cycle that will then be available in the FY 2013-2014 budget cycle, as well as with growth experienced in other revenue areas.

Mr. Belote mentioned that FY 2013-14 is the third year of the Park Board Five Year Reorganization Plan. Included in this budget proposal are a total of nine new full-time equivalent positions, as well as the restoration of three positions currently "frozen". It was noted that most of these positions are associated with the operation of the new facilities and projects completed through the 2006 Parks Sales Tax initiative.

Mr. Belote reviewed the FY 2013-14 budget proposal regarding the areas of special emphasis which includes opportunities for community feedback, neighborhood park restoration, new collaborations and partnerships, park safety and security, and continued emphasis on sports tourism. Additionally, Mr. Belote discussed our commitment to enhance the Springfield Lasers Professional Tennis franchise and pay off the remaining golf debt balance this year.

DEPARTMENT PRIORITIES Mr. Belote reviewed the department's priorities for the next budget cycle. Restoring lost or reduced services or positions from previous City budget cuts is still a major priority with the Park Board's budgeting process.

Parks General Fund Mr. Belote reviewed the list of FY 2013-14 Funded Departmental Priorities in the Parks General Fund, which includes the restoration of pool hours, along with the new Doling Family Center Aquatics addition, restoring a support service position at Jordan Valley Park/Medicom Ice Park, and restoring two positions in the Park Operations and Maintenance division. We are also proposing to enhance Springfield Lasers Professional Franchise with additional staffing commitments, better promotions and community opportunities, securing new sponsorships, and increasing the number of marquee players who visit Springfield each summer.

2001 County-Wide Parks Sales Tax and Capital Projects Fund Mr. Belote reviewed the priorities for the 2001 County-Wide Parks Sales Tax and Capital Projects fund which include enhancing parks safety and security with the addition of a new Assistant Park Ranger Supervisor. Additionally, funds have been proposed to reclassify the Park Ranger Supervisor position due to the increased scope of authority for that position. Additional support will be provided to the Special Facilities division by reclassifying one position at Rutledge-Wilson Farm and reclassifying a second position at Valley Water Mill Equestrian Center to a full-time equivalent position. Mr. Belote reviewed the department's equipment needs and the favorable lease purchase options available.

2006 County-Wide Parks Sales Tax Fund In order to address the Park System's growth and seasonal hiring needs, funding is proposed for a Parks Human Resources Specialist. We propose the addition of a Purchasing/Buyer position to coordinate and assist in procurement of materials, equipment, and parks-related services. With an

increase in the department's online responsibilities, proposed funding is included for a staff position to continue assisting with the operation and integration of Active.net software, along with a computer technician position to serve as the department's fulltime webmaster. Funding is proposed to replace the department's trash truck through a five-year lease financing plan.

2006 County-Wide Parks Sales Tax and Capital Projects Funds During inclement weather events, the Mediacom Ice Park provides community emergency management services, so a commercial generator is proposed to provide sufficient power. This equipment is also needed to maintain the two sheets of ice in case of power failure. With the assistance of the Greene County Emergency Management Office, grant funds are being solicited to purchase a generator system. Funds are being proposed in the FY 2013-14 budget to match the possible grant funds where applicable. As we celebrate our 100th Anniversary, funds are also proposed to begin restoring our older neighborhood parks. We will also continue to seek community donations and charitable gifts to further develop and implement park priorities.

Golf Enterprise Fund In the FY 2013-2014 budget a final payment will be made to resolve debt associated with the development of the Rivercut Golf Course. Mr. Belote reviewed the proposed plan to reclassify the three Golf Course Superintendent positions to better reflect the increased supervisory functions associated with these positions. Additionally, three Golf Course Maintenance Worker positions will be reclassified due to supervisory duties and responsibilities. Funding is proposed for additional equipment needed in the golf area through a five-year lease purchase option.

Mr. Belote reviewed the remaining pages of the proposed FY 2013-2014 budget, along with a variety of handouts that summarized the priorities discussed and answered Park Board members' questions about materials presented. Mr. Belote mentioned that the Staff would make any discussed corrections and have the proposed FY 2013-2014 budget available for review before the February 8, 2013, Park Board meeting.

III. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Price adjourned the meeting at 7:15 pm.