

CITY OF PIERZ
Official Minutes of the Pierz City Council
Joint Workshop – Park Board Recommendation of Moving Forward with 9 holes of golf
February 4th, 2020
6:00 pm

Council Members Present: Dave Fischer, Kyle Bednar, Don Bujalski, Lynn Egan, Jacque Ballou and Linda Sczublewski.

Park Board Members Present: Rick Sczublewski, Todd Preimesberger, Neil Korf, Tammy Scanlon, Joe Bell

Staff Present: Bob Otremba, Mary Caughey, Zach Baert

Others Present: Jim Gerwing, Terry Lehrke

The City Council Workshop was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at Pierz City Hall by Mayor Dave Fischer.

Mayor Dave Fischer explained the history of the Hiemenz property summarizing the following information: The property was purchased from the Hiemenz family in 2017. A community committee of approximately twenty-five members was tasked to explore options for the use of the property. The committee met several times. In 2019, the Park Board was given the task of researching and developing a recommendation for the use of the property. Early in 2019, the City of Pierz negotiated with Knife River about the possibility of purchasing the gravel pit north of the existing campgrounds. Knife River stated they would like \$100,000 for the gravel pit property. The Park Board decided to move forward with a concept plan study for an additional nine holes of golf, a campground in the Hiemenz property, and a campground in the gravel pit property. The City Engineer (S E H) developed a concept plan for the Hiemenz property included three separate phases of campground development for a total of \$3.7 million. The gravel pit campground development included two phases for a total development cost of \$2.67 million. Scott Hoffman from Scott Hoffman Golf developed a plan for an additional nine holes of golf. His plan included two options. One option included a signature par 3 hole on the east end which would involve significant clearing and grubbing and a bridge. This option would cost \$857,000. Option two is to design the course without using this area for a total cost of \$737,000. The Park Board discussed all options and has made the recommendation to the Pierz City Council to move forward with an additional nine holes of golf. Cart paths are not included in the cost of golf expansion plan. City Administrator Bob Otremba and Park Complex Superintendent Zach Baert discussed the importance of securing a water supply of 400-500 gallons per minute for the additional nine holes.

Council Member Lynn Egan stated the need for a feasibility study for the revenues and expenses involved with operating an additional nine holes. Mayor Dave Fischer explained the additional staff and equipment requirements along with the potential revenues associated with an additional nine holes of golf.

Council Member Jacque Ballou stated she would like to see a new clubhouse and updates to the park especially the playground equipment as part of the project. Mayor Dave Fischer said the Park Board has researched options to remodel the clubhouse to include a new kitchen and it has been cost prohibitive. The Park Board has discussed this and has decided that we should not compete with the bars and restaurants in town but, would still like to offer short order food and beverages. City Administrator Bob Otremba stated the city has been budgeting for new playground equipment for a few years and it will be replaced soon.


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Council Member Lynn Egan discussed the need to collect data including zip codes from our current golfers for one season to determine where they are traveling from to golf. She also asked city staff to gather data on how many golfers we currently have golfing at the Pierz Golf Course.

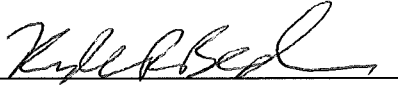
Council Member Kyle Bednar stated that he would like to see the construction costs, future revenues and future expenses outlined more clearly before he is ready to decide on an additional nine holes of golf. Mayor Dave Fischer will work on updating the information he has and send it out to the council. He suggested a joint workshop again in late February or early March. Details for upcoming meetings will be communicated through the City Hall office when they are set.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.



Dave Fischer, Mayor



Kyle Bednar, City Clerk