Committee members in attendance were Dick Fuller (chairman), Councilman Lou Rasmussen, Councilman Mike Gill, Jim Dickson, Bob Reid, Charles Lewis III, Mike O’Connell, John Campbell, Bobby Davidson, and Dave Fearis. Chris Claxton, Parks and Recreation Director, Julia Brickman, as well as Shane Gardner and Matt Roberts of IRONHORSE were also in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilman Lou Rasmussen to approve the minutes from the March 22, 2001 meeting. John Campbell seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Councilman Lou Rasmussen stated that he is very pleased with our staff’s work on the water district issues.

A discussion was held regarding the water situation.

I. Operations

Matt handed out the financial report and variance report for March. In the future, he is going to email the reports beforehand so any questions can be answered before the meeting.

Councilman Lou Rasmussen had a question regarding the discrepancy of the actual number of loss and the budgeted number. Shane stated the reason is because we have not paid the debt and interest is not reflected in the report. Councilman Lou Rasmussen asked if we made the budget payment in March. Shane said the payment was made by the city not by Orion. Chris said she would meet with Kathy Rogers to communicate when the payment is made so Orion’s reports are accurate. Councilman Mike Gill said he would like to see the report reflect “true” numbers.

Matt explained the variance report. He stated they are currently under budget and their first priority is to watch their expenses.
The report states the Triple Crown Club has seventy-two members. Currently they have approximately eighty members. Matt thinks the maximum number of Triple Crown members will be eighty.

Councilman Mike Gill asked about the tee times working with the Triple Crown members. Matt said they have not had a problem. Either they bring guests or will have a foursome of Triple Crown members.

The report stated IRONHORSE has fifty-four Conductor’s Club members and twenty-one Engineer’s Club members.

Matt said at Hallbrook and Leawood South instructors are coming to IRONHORSE to teach some lessons while they are under renovation.

Matt reported that 4500 rounds out of 6000 rounds budgeted are contracted for tournaments. They decided to charge per person instead of a flat rate. The per person charge ranges between $75 to $86 depending on the time.

Councilman Lou Rasmussen stated at the last committee meeting they voted for the City Council to investigate the flooded condition on thirteen. He introduced the motion to the City Council to defer the problem to the Public Works Committee. The Mayor suggested Councilman Lou Rasmussen and Pete attend the meeting.

Councilman Lou Rasmussen went to the golf course to look at the terrain. He was horrified to see people were still building houses in the flood plain. He stated the Commissioner is allowing them to build in the flood plains and letting the county pay for the repairs.

Councilman Lou Rasmussen said the creek bank stabilization is still an issue. He welcomed any Golf Committee member to attend the 7:30 a.m. meeting on May 23rd. He stated if we do this project we need to know the entire cost for the city.

Bobby said when the Don Bell subdivision was benchmarked it was off by two-feet. The city knew there was a two-foot bust and there were five more houses built. Councilman Mike Gill asked who set the benchmark? Bobby said Don Bell’s engineer. Don Bell allowed people to build houses in the flood plain after knowing the benchmark was not correct.

II. Course Update

Jim asked if we have had responses from the billboard advertisement. Shane said yes. They did a trade out for advertising with Lamar. The billboard ends in May.

Shane reported the greens were aerified on Monday. He said they looked at areas with zoysia grass and there are a lot of brown spots. The number one fairway is the worst. They may have to re-sod some of the smaller areas. The roughs are very thick and
coming up nicely. The blue grass has done well and they are having a hard time keeping up with mowing.

Shane said they feel confident the grass will come up. There are some spots they will have to sod. He said it is a common problem around town. They are going to do the tees first then the fairways.

Jim said our greens are great and are fast. He wants the committee to think about the tees where the zoysia grass is dying, he thinks the area is not big enough. He said, until we get a bulldozer and make number three larger, he wants everyone to think about the number one fairway and that it is not normal. The fairway comes back to the tee quite a ways. He suggested renovating and converting some of the fairway to rough. He stated 50% of the area looks bad. He suggested prioritizing the area to be fixed.

Dick said he has heard people are extremely pleased with the golf course and with Orion. The staff in the kitchen, pro shop, and golf shop they are doing a great job.

Charles made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bobby seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on May 31, 2001.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Claxton, Director
Parks and Recreation