

IRONHORSE
Golf Club



GOLF COURSE COMMITTEE
October 28, 2004 – 5:30 p. m.

Committee members in attendance were Dick Fuller (chairman), Councilman Lou Rasmussen, Councilman Gary Bussing, Bob Reid, John Campbell, Jim Dickson, Mike O'Connell, Chris Claxton, Parks and Recreation Director, Shane Gardner, Pete Spratlin, and Matt Roberts of IRONHORSE were also in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Lou Rasmussen to approve the minutes from the September 23, 2004 meeting. Mike O'Connell seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

General Operations Report

Matt discussed the September financial report. He reported we were under budget, but within \$9,000.00 of last year's revenues. Greens were aerified at an earlier time this year, which may have affected revenues. Possible other causes for this discrepancy in revenue included two less tournaments, and three payroll periods paid out during September (should correct itself in October). The last tournament of the year was held on October 22nd.were

Gary Bussing commented that October was an estimate but it is a good tournament month, correct? Matt Roberts said that is correct. Gary asked several questions about the timing of the aerification procedure. Gary thought perhaps a historical comparison of September play might be valuable in making an accurate comparison.

Lou Rasmussen said he remembered asking some time ago whether our current software is capable of forecasting future budgets for the golf course. If not shouldn't we be upgrading our software now. Chris explained that this was discussed with the City Administrator and that it could not be funded until 2005. Due to constraints for time before the season opens we would not have time to purchase, customize, install, and train on the new system. Lou feels that having the software would help establish a better information base while looking to the future. He also mentioned that Almanac is still a good forecaster for weather.

Gary Bussing said that the Business Plan for IRONHORSE does not need to be as extensive as it has in the past, but it needs to show what worked in 2004 and what will be done in 2005 to produce the desired results for that calendar year.

Shane Gardner will discuss the goals for 2004 and what will have to change in 2005 in order to achieve and/or surpass these goals.

Gary Bussing mentioned that we need to quantify our goals so that they can be measured. He also said that the questions he posed from last year via an email would be relevant to the discussion for the work session on November 15th.

Lou Rasmussen said he noticed that the Junior/Senior rounds appeared to go up and wondered if this is correct.

Matt Roberts said that Twilight had the biggest increase at 129%.

Course and Project Update

Pete said that the zoysia is asleep now, but the ground surface is wet. The greens are seeded and repaired, and from a health perspective, we are in great shape.

Lou Rasmussen was curious about prior years' flooding and wondered about damage to the bunkers; specifically, what happens to the sand in the bunkers after a flood. Does it become contaminated and can we select from different types of sand in order to reduce the effect?

Pete Spratlin said that only Holiday Sand can provide sand now and that bunker redesign has already reduced this problem. Bunkers will always have a certain "lifespan".

Gary Bussing asked about replacing the existing bunkers with grass bunkers. Pete said that 80% of the course goes under water at some point during the season. If we made the changes Gary suggested, it would require a major design change.

Lou Rasmussen said that on the #11 green by the lake, there remains a concern of sedimentation that the developer made an oral promise to clean out.

Mike O'Connell asked about a putting a bridge on the #11 green to make crossing easier. Pete said we could possibly look at installing a third bridge using timber we got from Public Works.

Lou Rasmussen wondered if having carp in the lake on the #6 green irrigation lake has had any effect.

Pete said we have had duckweed all year, but it has stayed within a two-foot ring of the perimeter. Two weeks after aerators were installed, the duckweed migrated towards the bubblers.

Lou Rasmussen asked about the electric utility bill and suggested that someone call KCPL to make sure IRONHORSE is getting the best rate. Pete said they are on the same meter as the pump, which is getting the best rate.

Chris discussed the concerns of some of the residents at the Village, regarding the roadway maintenance. This area is the short gravel road that comes off 151st street that provides an access point for this section of the course. They would like to see it reshaped, irrigated, and maintained as the rest of the roadway. Chris said the area is rocky and steep and is not planned to be "improved" at this time. She has directed Orion to keep it mowed to a reasonable level and to keep the litter picked up in that area. Gary Bussing said this will be addressed when 151st is widened.

Pete Spratlin said that we have restricted access to the golf course on the southwest corner of the mission reserve, due to the placement of riprap and excess soils by the developer in this area.

Gary Bussing said he would be discussing the potential redirection of the funding mechanism for the creek bank stabilization project.

Fencing Issue

Chris Claxton reported the situation as it currently stands with the removal of the fencing and cover on the Hampton Place subdivision that backs up to the number 12 cart path. It has been turned over to the police at this time- possibly as a trespassing issue. Chris said that she has been told that it is hard to place a value on trespassing and/or opening up the fence line. Lou asked why we are trying to establish a value to trespassing.

Miscellaneous:

Painting of Clubhouse

Chris Claxton reported on the status of the project. Mike O'Connell said we shouldn't be concerned about the time it takes to complete the painting, but rather be concerned about the durability of the job by the fact it is being done so late in the year.

P.O.S. Software

Lou Rasmussen asked why we couldn't use contingency funds or have the vendor sign an agreement for 90 days, which would be the same as cash. Lou will take this issue up with the Mayor and Scott Lambers to see what we needs to be done to get this issue finalized.

The next meeting will be November 18, at 5:30 in the main conference room at City Hall. Jim Dickson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike O'Connell seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Claxton, Director
Parks & Recreation