Karen Ward Reimer (Chair) called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Gary made a motion to approve the February 13, 2018 meeting minutes. Steve seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

I. Special Business

A. Introduction of New Council Liaison and Board Member

Chair Ward-Reimer introduced new council liaison Chuck Sipple and new Board Member Kim Galbraith. The sitting board and staff introduced themselves to the new committee members.

II. Old Business

A. Discuss Revised CIP

Chris stated that the retaining wall, drainage and garden area behind the Nature Center were not completed due to the ongoing drainage issues tied to the road between the Nature Center and the Lodge, which is scheduled to be repaired in 2018. The tennis courts will be resurfaced this year and the pool house at the Aquatic Center will be replaced in 2019. We are considering having the design completed for the area behind the Nature Center in 2018 with a scheduled 2020 completion. We also need to set aside funds for the future park site plan at 96th & Lee Boulevard. Ironhorse Golf Course is completing their projects as scheduled for 2018.

Steve inquired if the pool house at the Aquatic Center will be raised.

Chris responded that we are planning to keep the pumps and filters. A new footprint for the building does need to be configured around this but yes, the building will be coming down.

Steve inquired if there is an issue with the pumps.

Brian stated that the pumps are in good working order and we are looking for ways to keep the pump room from flooding during flood events. He also stated that the media inside the filters should be replaced during the renovation of the bathhouse.
Chris stated that she and Brian recently met with Continental Engineers regarding the tennis courts. They did the design work when the park was renovated in 2000 and can use those plans as a reference point for this project. After meeting with them, it was determined that the funds set aside in the CIP were not going to be enough. She stated that Brian Anderson attended workshop regarding using a fabric under the surface that could reduce the costs. The resurfacing project is scheduled for this fall. We will be requesting RFPs for the tennis court resurfacing and bathhouse design in the near future. We are currently working with David Ley, Public Works Director, regarding the parking lots and road between the Nature Center and Lodge at Ironwoods Park.

Chuck inquired if the department is receiving complaints from citizens regarding the condition of the tennis courts.

Chris stated that we have been receiving complaints because the courts are starting to crack making play frustrating.

Brian stated the plan is to mill off three inches of the existing court, clean and fill cracks, pour the geogrid and put the new surface on top. The finished product will be similar to reinforced concrete and should keep old cracks from re-forming.

Kim G. inquired when the golf course was planning to start on the improvements listed in the CIP.

Chris stated that the range mats are going to be replaced within the month and the remaining improvements will be completed in the fall.

Chris stated that the sprayground replacement at the Aquatic Center will be delayed. She stated that it is not feasible to complete it the same year as the pool house.

B. Discuss Submittals of RFPs for 96th & Lee Future Park

Karen stated that she, Chris, Brian & Julie reviewed the eleven RFPs that were submitted for the design of the future park at 96th & Lee Boulevard.

Chris stated that a recommendation would not be made this evening.

Karen stated that she was pleased with the RFPs that were submitted.

Chris was in agreement with Karen’s observation. She stated that some of the proposals did not meet our needs and were eliminated. She stated that five or six of them need to undergo further review. She stated that the RFP was a difficult process due to potential unknowns regarding the site.

Chris stated that a Governing Body Work Session regarding the site is scheduled for April 2. We need to understand the Governing Body’s thoughts regarding the former City Hall building. We currently do not have funds available to move or restore old City Hall. A bid of $140,000 to move the building to the north was received in 2015. We also need to obtain a cost to refurbish and repair the facility inside and out. The future of the current fire station needs to be determined as well.

Steve inquired if the five firms being considered incorporated both buildings in their proposal.
Chris stated that the firms looked at the process but do not want to reveal their ideas at this phase. We asked the firms to submit their price based on the scope of the RFP.

Steve inquired if the current fire station need to be moved for the new one to be constructed.

Chris stated that the fire station does not need to be moved but if the plan for the new fire station is accepted. The old City Hall facility will need to be relocated because it is next to the ingress/egress for the new fire station. All of the firms that submitted proposals were given the footprint of the fire station in regards to where it is proposed to be located.

Julie noted that $325,000 is set aside for the project. She inquired about the source of funds for moving old city hall.

Chris stated that the overall priorities for the park need to be reviewed.

Julie stated that she prefers that the city saves old city hall and keeps the original portion of the fire station.

Steve inquired if the Historic Commission can help fund the relocation and restoration of the building.

Julie stated that she spoke with Bruce Martin from the Historic Commission and he stated that Johnson County might have interest in a fire museum. The county could possibly give matching dollars toward the restoration of the fire station.

Steve inquired about the timeline for construction of the new fire station.

Chris stated that it would likely start after the expiration of the lease and removal of the cell tower, which should occur around the end of April 2019.

Chuck stated that construction of the new fire station should begin during the summer of 2019.

Chris stated that Bruce Martin of the Historic Commission is looking for opportunities to fundraise.

Steve inquired if the Historic Commission has a planned use for the facilities.

Julie stated it could be used as a meeting space.

Chris stated that she is gathering information for the work session packet. Including Historic Commission meeting minutes and Governing Body meeting minutes regarding the property. Chris asked if any committee members have questions regarding the property to forward them to her.

Julie stated that the city needs a place to store the antique Fire Truck. She stated it cannot go into the new fire station due to concerns for visitor safety in the bay area.

C. Revised CIP (cont.)

Chris stated that the restrooms that may be placed along the greenway are a possibility as the waterless restrooms continue to improve in function and aesthetics.
Chuck stated that the restrooms were discussed in a recent abbreviated meeting. He inquired if the restrooms in the flood plain could be elevated or if they will be similar to a composting toilet or outhouse and placed near the parking lot at 114th & Tomahawk Creek Parkway.

Chris replied that they would be placed in that location and would be waterless (not connected to sanitary).

Chris mentioned that staff would like to replace shelters A & B in City Park and replace them with one large shelter with a restroom in 2021.

Steve inquired about the location for the Indian Creek stabilization project.

Chuck stated that it is the section of creek located on the northeast side of City Park near the fence separating the park from I-435. He stated that he asked the Public Works Director if we could use old concrete from projects to reinforce the creek bank. The Public Works Director replied that EPA will not allow old concrete to be used due to the steel embedded in the concrete. New riprap is needed.

Chris noted an error on the sheet listing the CIP projects; the year 2022 should not include the trail from city hall and tunnel improvements. Those items should be on the list of unfunded projects. She stated she met with Public Works Director, David Ley regarding the placement of the crosswalk on Tomahawk Creek Parkway to allow trail access. City Administrator, Scott Lambers would like staff to take three options to a Governing Body Work Session.

Chris stated that the projects scheduled for the year 2022 should include the Indian Creek bank stabilization and replacement of the Lions Shelter in City Park.

Chris stated that staff and the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board would revisit the CIP list next year. She stated that the pond outfall structure in Ironwoods Park has been moved to 2023. She stated it is not in great condition but is functional.

Chris stated that the department is appreciative to get money each year and we want to use the funds to take care of the facilities we currently have.

Steve inquired what the philosophy is of the Governing Body on how to use funds on projects. Do we add new items or do we take care of the infrastructure we currently have.

Julie stated that there is not a set policy but we prefer to maintain the current infrastructure as opposed to building new facilities.

Chuck stated that safety, security and upkeep of our current facilities comes first. We need maintain existing park infrastructure and then can add on.

Chris mentioned staff may submit two decision packages for the 2019 budget- 1 new item and 1 replacement item. Brian is submitting a decision package for the establishment of a south bike loop and Kim is submitting a decision package to replace the current lighting at the Lodge with LED lighting.

Chuck inquired about the status of the flooded maintenance building.

Brian stated that they are waiting on the determination from FEMA regarding the disposition of the building.

Chris inquired about the status of the bid for the north bike loop.
Brian stated the bid came back at $34,000 and the amount is within budget and encumbered. Chris stated that the CIP list includes $4.3 million of unfunded projects. Chuck inquired if the department will be receiving funds from the Park Impact Fee. Chris stated that the park impact fee was recommended to be increased and needs to be revisited. Time restraints kept it from being discussed with the council. Steve inquired about the new trail on the Village of Leawood property. Brian stated that the developer installed the trail and mentioned that the developer used the wrong concrete and the bridge may not meet ADA standards. Chris stated that we still do not own the property at this time. Chris stated that the list unfunded projects are not in order of priority. She stated that the restrooms scheduled for the fields 11 & 12 (west of City Park) are not feasible until after 2021 due to the construction at the wastewater plant. Kim G. stated that she is surprised that only $1M is available per year. She thought the amount might increase over the years. Julie stated that the amount is the base to start with. Chuck stated that revenue and taxes have increased. Julie stated that the city has not raised the mill in 17 years. She stated that the city has a 3-prong approach for revenues- residential, commercial and sales tax. She stated that the Governing Body does not want to raise our mill. The $1M is a placeholder; projects are shifted over the years in all departments to help maintain funds. Chris stated that she would email a corrected version of the CIP list to all Board Members.

III. New Business

A. Staff Reports

Brian reported the following:

- FEMA update: A meeting has been scheduled at the Park Facility to assess all damage that has been disclosed. Representatives from FEMA will take detailed measurements and give assistance options. They will look at the main facility and determine if it is repairable. If so, FEMA will pay 85% of the appraised value of the building. If the building is a total loss and we can’t build in current location, mitigation will be reviewed and FEMA can assist with land acquisition and relocation. The pond at City Park was also discussed. The floodwaters washed away the gravel base and damaged the large limestone rocks. The lake is eligible for funding because it is an irrigation detention pond, which classifies it as a facility. Brett Haugland from Continental Engineers recommended a better quality rock set in concrete to prevent future flood damage.

- The lake at Gezer Park has been drained for annual cleaning but the cleaning has been delayed due to not having a water truck and the irrigation system is still shut down due to cold temperatures. The sediment in the lake is causing the pumps to
clog and the lake will not recirculate. We will be able to clean the lake with the equipment borrowed from the Public Works Department.

- We have scheduled a test of the new poured-in-place surface at the new playground due to floodwaters accumulating on the surface last summer and potentially affecting the fall guidelines. If it does not pass the test, FEMA will help with the repair.

Chuck inquired if the playground is still usable.

Brian stated that when walking on the surface, you can tell it is still bouncy; however, if we have the opportunity, we need to make sure it is right.

Brian reported that he and his supervisory staff have been backtracking labor and equipment used for flood clean up. FEMA has a formula for hours of use for equipment and will reimburse for the cleanup and removal of non-vegetative trash.

Chris reported that bids are coming in on the infield replacement at Tomahawk Park. This repair will be reimbursed by FEMA.

Julie inquired how long it takes before reimbursements are received from FEMA.

Brian stated that it varies based on dollar amount. Anything $25,000 and under is paid all at one time. After that amount, payments may be received monthly or quarterly depending upon the dollar amount.

Brian continued his report:
- The wood mulch under the playground at Tomahawk Park is being replaced.
- The housing development south of Ironwoods Park received approval from the Governing Body to proceed. The development is required to maintain a 10 foot tree buffer along the border of Ironwoods Park. The development will also be installing a 5 foot wrought iron fence and multi-use trail.

Chris stated that an electronic gate will be installed on the trail at the property line of the park and work operate in conjunction with park hours.

Chris reported:
- The Stride ‘n Ride committee has been working on the first ever event scheduled for Saturday, June 9.
- Scheels has donated $1,000 to the event for scavenger hunt prizes and materials.
- Working with Officer Phil Goff to market the event at Church of the Resurrection, Leawood Schools, etc.
- Kids attending the event will be able to register with the name of their school and the school with the highest attendance will receive a traveling trophy
- Attractions will include; food trucks with healthier options, a DJ, BMX Group, B-cycles, tours of the north loop, mountain bike course tour, walking scavenger hunt and a bike skills challenge.

Kim reported the following:
- Soccer starts this weekend with 152 teams registered, which is an increase over last fall.
• Eggstravaganza is this Sunday; activities start at 11:00am and the hunt begins at 12:30pm sharp.
• Staff is completing the hiring of seasonal staff.
• Swim & Dive team registration starts on Monday, April 2.
• Pool passes are going to be available online starting Monday, April 2.
• Working on completing the 2019 budget and meeting with Chris tomorrow for budget review.

April reported the following:
• The Oxford Schoolhouse is now open Saturdays and Sundays. Field trip season for school groups is underway.
• The Oxford Schoolhouse is participating in the Passport to Adventure program with the Nature Center. April will be at the Bass Pro in Independence on Saturday for the kickoff.
• Arti Gras was held at the Lodge in February and was well attended.
• The Arts Council is hosting an art show at Gallery V in Mission Farms west on Friday evening.
• The Stage Company held auditions for the upcoming four shows at the beginning of March.
• The first show of the year is a musical review of the past 20 years of shows performed by the Leawood Stage Company.
• Tea with Shakespeare is on Sunday and is sold out.

Brian reported that Water One is in the process of adding a main line extension to Hallbrook. Water One is working in easement and having difficulty getting the line installed. The trail has been damaged in three locations.

Chuck inquired if Water One is going to restore the area.

Brian stated that they will restore the area and will put in native seed grass.

IV. Next scheduled Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held April 10 at 5:30 p.m. in the Maple Room of the Community Center.

Steve made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Kim Galbraith seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Claxton, Parks and Recreation Director