

City of Blair Regular Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Advisory Board Meeting  
April 15, 2025

Agenda Item #1 – The Parks, Recreation, and Cemetery Board met in regular session in the City Council Chambers on April 15, 2025 at 5:30 PM and called to order by Chairperson Jensen.

The Chairperson publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated the location of such copy posted in the room where the meeting was being held. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Enterprise or the Pilot -Tribune as shown by the affidavit of publication filed in the City Clerk's office. Notice of the meeting was simultaneously given to the Chairperson and all members of the Parks, Recreation, and Cemetery Advisory Board. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the Chairperson and Board of this meeting. All proceedings shown hereafter were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Agenda Item #2 - Roll Call of members - The following were present: Betsy Anderson, Sarah Boeka, Joe Burns, Neil Jensen, Kristi Rounds, Todd Wick. Also present were: City Administrator Green, Director of Public Works Heaton, and Non-Lawyer Assistant Ferrari.

Agenda Item #3 – Approval of minutes from the March 18, 2025 – Motion by Rounds, second by Wick to approve the Minutes from March 18, 2025 meeting. Betsy Anderson: Yea, Sarah Boeka: Yea, Joe Burns: Yea, Neil Jensen: Yea, Kristi Rounds: Yea, Todd Wick: All Board members voted: Yea 6, Nay: 0. Chairperson Jensen declared the motion carried.

Agenda Item #4. Budget report for March 2025 – Chairperson Jensen stated that the budget report for March 2025 is presented for review. No action is required.

Agenda Item #5. Presentation by Brent Fullmer to consider options to reallocate funds raised for pump track – Fullmer, 1403 Wright Street, came before the Board and provided a report on reallocating the funds that were raised for a pump track. There is a total of \$41,000 placed in three different fund locations; 1) City of Blair (KENO Funds) - \$5,000, 2) WCNG (Blair Trail Fund), and 3) WCNG (Pump Track Fund). Fullmer offered the following ideas for reallocating the funds: 1) Design & estimation for bicycle playground - \$14,500. This process would be a beginning step toward a complete bicycle park which could eventually include a pump track. The cost to fully fund a completed park averages around \$500,000, 2) Four bicycle repair stations placed around Blair - \$2,200 per station, 3) Donation to Blair Art Alley for a custom-made bike rack - \$2,000. 4) The remaining funds could be left as seed money for future projects. Chairperson Jensen asked if there is a deadline for the funds to be used. It was confirmed there is not. Fullmer explained the park is geared toward children between the ages of 2 and 12 years old. Important factors regarding the location of the park include parking and access from neighborhoods. It is better to put it in a park with existing playground equipment as children tend to go back and forth between amenities. Possible locations were discussed with an understanding that a future study will provide additional feedback. The repair stations are a stand that has tools attached to perform basic repairs on bicycles. Request by Fullmer to provide him with approval to pursue reallocating funds to the four projects discussed. All Board members voted Aye.

Agenda Item #6 – Discussion regarding proposed guidelines for the amphitheater and pickleball courts – Non-Lawyer Assistant Ferrari opened discussion on the proposed guidelines for the amphitheater. Amphitheaters around the state were researched and that information was used to create the Amphitheater Rental Packet. Important factors she emphasized included liability insurance requirements, safety and security, stormwater management requirements, amplified sounds, and the rental application. Public Works Director Heaton reviewed the guidelines for the pickleball court. The courts will be open from dawn to dusk, courts one and two will run on a first come, first serve basis. Courts three and four are available for reservation which must be made 48 hours in advance. Anderson indicated that she spoke with pickleball players within the community, and they had the following suggestions: 1) Paddle Racks, 2) Benches, 3) Lights, 4) Wind Screen, 5) QR Code for information regarding reservations, and 6) Limit the number of games to one while others are waiting. Motion by Anderson, second by Boeka to approve the Generation Park amphitheater rental packet and pickleball courts rules and regulations considering the change to Courts 1 and 2 running on a first come/first serve basis and 3 and 4 holding reservations. Betsy Anderson: Yea, Sarah Boeka: Yea, Joe Burns: Yea, Neil Jensen: Yea, Kristi Rounds: Yea, Todd Wick: Yea. All Board members voted: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Agenda Item #7. Recommendation from the Blair Park Board to amend the Appendix - Permit, License, and Application Fees of the Blair Municipal Code by adding amphitheater and pickleball court rental fees. Non-Lawyer Assistant Ferrari presented the amended Appendix – Permit, License, and Application Fees of the Blair Municipal Code illustrating the amphitheater and pickleball court rental fees. The suggested amphitheater fees are: Half day (7:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. or 4:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.) - \$150 for non-profit and Blair dance and musical groups and \$250 for profit and non-Blair based dance and musical groups. Full day (7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.) - \$300 for non-profit and Blair dance and musical groups and \$500 for profit/non-Blair based dance and musical groups. The suggested pickleball court fees for Courts 3 and 4 are as follows: Half day (7:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. or 4:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.) - \$75 for non-profit public or community organization and \$150 for profit/commercial use. Full day (7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.) - \$150 for non-profit, public or community organization use and \$300 for profit/commercial use. Wick questioned if the school would be required to pay to reserve them for PE classes. City Administrator Green suggested it be discussed at a later date. Motion by Rounds, second by Anderson to recommend approval of the amendment to Appendix - Permit, License, and Application Fees of the Blair Municipal Code to include new fees for the amphitheater and pickleball rentals to the Chairperson and City Council. Betsy Anderson: Yea, Sarah Boeka: Yea, Joe Burns: Yea, Neil Jensen: Yea, Kristi Rounds: Yea, Todd Wick: Yea. All Board members voted: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Agenda Item #8 - Staff Report – Director of Public Works Heaton reported on the following: 1) The splash pad at Generations Park is being tested for final approval next Tuesday (April 22<sup>nd</sup>); 2) A ribbon cutting for Generations Park is scheduled for May 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.; 3) Pat Long's, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cemetery, last day is May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Director of Public Works Heaton extended his sincere thanks to Pat for all his guidance and dedicated time to the City of Blair. Six internal candidates went through the interview process for Pat's replacement and the final decision is expected to be made soon; 4) Chairperson Jensen reminded the Board about the upcoming Arbor Day festivities. On April 24<sup>th</sup> second grade students will plant three trees at Steyer park, and they will also receive a tree from the Papio NRD to plant on their own.

Agenda Item #9. Adjournment – Motion by Jensen, second by Wick to adjourn the meeting at 6:31 p.m. Board members voted as follow: Betsy Anderson: Yea, Sarah Boeka: Yea, Joe Burns: Yea, Neil Jensen: Yea, Kristi Rounds: Yea, Todd Wick: Yea. All members voted: Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Angel Clements, Recording Secretary