

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTIES OF POTTER
AND RANDALL
CITY OF AMARILLO

On the 9th day of January 2020, the Amarillo City Council met at 6:00 p.m. for a special meeting held at the Charles E. Warford Activity Center, 1330 Northwest 18th Avenue, Gymnasium, Amarillo, Texas, with the following members present:

GINGER NELSON
FREDA POWELL
EDDY SAUER
HOWARD SMITH

MAYOR
MAYOR PRO TEM/COUNCILMEMBER NO. 2
COUNCILMEMBER NO. 3
COUNCILMEMBER NO. 4

Absent were none. Also in attendance were the following administrative officials:

JARED MILLER
MICHELLE BONNER
MARCUS NORRIS
MICHAEL KASHUBA
FRANCES HIBBS
JORDAN SCHUPBACH

CITY MANAGER
DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY
DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CITY SECRETARY
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Nelson established a quorum, called the meeting to order, welcomed those in attendance and the following items of business were conducted:

CONSENT ACTION ITEMS:

ITEM 1A: Mayor Nelson stated Michael Kashuba, Director of Parks & Recreation Director would present the replacement options for the Thompson Park Swimming Pool. Mr. Chad Dietz, Parkhill Smith & Cooper, presented comparables, concepts and cost estimates for the replacement of Thompson Park Swimming Pool at three locations.

PUBLIC ADDRESS:


ITEM 1B: Paul Borchardt, Wonderland Amusement Park, 2601 Dumas Drive, inquired if there were easy egress and ingress at the proposed swimming pool locations. Councilmember Sauer inquired about his location preference. Mr. Borchardt replied he preferred the Hastings site because of the easy egress and ingress. Deborah Stich, 4246 Southwest 12th Avenue, stated her family has used all the public pools and her children were lifeguards. She encouraged a pool large enough for children to take swimming lessons. She further stated she preferred the Hastings location as well. Councilmember Sauer inquired if there was a portion in the pool designs that would allow for swimming lessons to be taught. Mr. Kashuba commented that the Warford Activity Center can conduct year-round swimming lessons. Tony Johnson, 1944 Northwest 12th Avenue, thanked Council and Mr. Kashuba for rebuilding Thompson Park pool. He preferred the pool site to remain in Thompson Park for historical reasons, but if it was not feasible it could be moved to another location in the park. Tremaine Brown, 1907 North Washington Street, questioned if there had been any feasibility or impact studies done on the new Canyon pool. He envisions a centerpiece for growth. He further stated location and size makes a difference and it would have an impact on the quality of life. Councilmember Powell stated she believed they were on the same page. She further stated the pool was closed for safety reasons and they did not want to rush the plans. Melonie Graves, 1601 Northwest 17th Avenue, encouraged a longevity plan making sure the cost does not increase and is kept at a comparable rate. Mr. Kashuba replied they want to make sure it is sustainable, cost recoverable, and long-term costs. Mayor Nelson stated Council works very hard on fees, and this Council is looking at the long-term on all decisions by creating policies and making gradual changes. Ms. Graves encouraged staff working at the pool to be recruited from the neighborhood. She further stated this was a unique opportunity for children to see a positive outlet and mentorship. TaMikka Williams, 906 Northwest 19th Avenue, thanked Council for bringing this to the northside. She stated she was a coordinator for the National Night Out event and she has received some positive feedback from the community. She further stated security was also a concern. Phillip Shorten, 1301 North Harrison Street, inquired about funds. Rick Sprouse, 104 Rivera Trail, signed up but did not appear. Pastor Betty Nickerson, 1905 North Jefferson Street, stated she liked the

presentation but preferred the pool to remain in Thompson Park. She also encouraged a year-round pool and security was important. Nicholas Carr, 3120 Redwood Street, inquired about the old site, and if the demolition was figured into the budget. Mr. Kashuba stated the initial demolition would be about \$200,000 and they would restore the area to turf. Mr. Carr stated he also believed it should stay inside Thompson Park along with Wonderland Park. He encouraged events for children who could not afford to pay the entrance fee. Mr. Kashuba replied that once the pool is built they will consider different types of events at the pool. Tiffany Podzemny, 2028 South Bonham Street, inquired about the recovery and the economic impact. She also encouraged an accessible pool staffed by people from the community. Mr. Kashuba stated the decision-making location has to consider the old landfill, the zoo, and disc golf courses. Moving closer to the Dumas highway avoids conflicts with the landfill. Ms. Podzemny inquired if the plans would be made available. Mr. Schupbach gave out the email address for the Public Communications Department, and stated that the plans would be available on the City's website and on social media. Councilmember Smith inquired if the locations chosen were accessible from the Dumas highway. Mr. Miller stated they would need to get with TxDot and review their standards.

ITEM 1C: Mayor Nelson stated a takeaway tonight was access. Councilmember Powell stated most people have stated they preferred the swimming pool to remain in Thompson Park. Councilmember Smith inquired if any of the sites created parking issues for Wonderland Park. Mr. Borchardt replied he did not foresee any problems. Councilmember Sauer stated he appreciated all the comments and he felt it was important for the pool to be incredible. He further stated it will have an impact on the northside of town and may help to increase the ability for things to start happening on the northside. Mal Carr, inquired why they would consider the blue location. Mayor Nelson replied this allowed for options and a different access. There were no further comments.

Mayor Nelson advised that the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:



Frances Hibbs, City Secretary



Ginger Nelson, Mayor