

A special called meeting of the Kirklin Town Council was held on Monday, October 24, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at Kirklin Town Hall.

Town Council Members present were Jennifer Bowman, Jerry Faucett, Melinda Jobe, Walt Minnick, & Brent Stetler.

Also present were Patty Quick, Sherry Stowers, Bill Brock, Dave Harness, Bill Lantrip, Stacey Richardson, Mitsy McAnich, & Billy Walker. Kim Deck came in while the meeting was in progress.

BRIDGE YOUTH CENTER – The Bridge Youth Center Board Members as well as Park Board Members were in attendance to discuss the possibility of the Bridge Board leasing the building at the town park. The Bridge would invest a great deal of money in adding heating, air conditioning, and possibly a kitchen and concession stand. Bill Brock explained that when they investigated insulating the building, they realized that the posts were rotten on the wood section of the building and would need replaced. Concrete on the inside needs attention and the building needs a new roof. He said they have discussed taking out the rotten posts and expanding on both sides and adding a front porch over the restrooms. Jerry Faucett questioned if the Bridge Board had looked at other options for a new location. Bill Brock explained the other options that they have looked at. They had safety concerns for the other locations due to them being on highways. They think the park would be the safest option and creates more activity at the park. Jennifer Bowman feels like the upgrades to the building would be a great thing for the town. Amber Hendrickson said that the Park Board has made a list of pros and cons for leasing the building. Their main concerns were 1) The loss of revenue in renting the shelter and plans they had to raise additional revenue next year, 2) Concerns about the Bridge being a Christian Organization, and 3) Concerns that the Park Board and community may not be able to use the facility when needed. The Bridge Board would be willing to have a joint Google calendar for coordination with others needing to use the building. The Park Board also has concerns about the youth center putting their name on the building. Sherry Stowers said that she didn't feel that it would be any different than allowing naming rights for the pickleball courts. She suggested that the sign could read something like "Travelers Shelter & Home of the Bridge". There was discussion about the revenue generated for the rental of the building and who would be responsible for the utilities. The Bridge has some money from the sale of a prior building, but do not have enough for all that they would like to do. Kim Deck suggested that the town contribute half the additional funds since they will retain ownership of the building. Jerry expressed concerns about the old school being buried there. Billy thinks that it will be fine around the existing building. Brent Stetler made a motion to begin negotiations to move the project forward. The motion was supported by Walt Minnick and carried with the following vote: Brent Stetler-yes, Jerry Faucett-yes, Walt Minnick-yes, Jennifer Bowman-yes, Melinda Jobe abstained. It was decided that between the Town Council, Park Board, and Bridge Board, a committee consisting of two members from each board, as well as Mary King as an Ex officio, should be formed to hold meetings & negotiate an agreement. Jennifer Bowman volunteered for the committee to meet at Bookers. It was decided that the committee would meet at Bookers on Tuesday, November 1st, and Monday, November 7th at 6:30 p.m. The Committee will be made up of Brent Stetler, Walt Minnick, Amber Hendrickson, Kim Deck, Bill Brock, and Dave Harness. It was noted that another board member would be allowed to attend the meetings if the designated member could not attend.

PARK BOARD MEMBER RESIGNATIONS – Bill Lantrip and Patty Quick both said that they will be resigning from the Park Board at the end of the year. Mary King said that Heidi Turner from the Kirklin

Library said that Kim Deck has not been replaced and is actually still a Park Board Member. Kim has decided that she is willing to serve on the Park Board. Kim also said that she has spoken with Jenni Dunn, and she is willing to serve on the Park Board as well. If Jenni Dunn fills one of the positions that will be open at the beginning of the year, that will still leave one position that would need to be filled.

FENCE REPAIR - Mitsy McAnich asked to speak about her fence that has still not been repaired. She presented photos of her fence that has been crushed by people climbing on it to retrieve balls and equipment as well as ag lime that was dumped on her property. Mitsy has installed temporary fencing to keep her dogs from getting out. She is willing to purchase posts but would like for the Rec Board to provide the labor and fencing for the entire section that needs replaced. She doesn't think that the offer to remove the ag lime and replace only two posts is fair. Jerry Faucett said that he would be willing to donate the posts. Mary King asked if the town should just move forward with taking care of it since it still hadn't been done. Billy Walker said that he could get quotes for fencing, but they would not have time to do the work. There is a lot of cleanout work that would need to be done in the fence row and it will take a while. Amber Hendrickson said that they had someone a while back that had been willing to do the work, but the Council wanted to give the Rec Board the opportunity do it since they had said they would. Mitsy said that the ag lime was dumped in 2020. When she put a post on social media, she was promised that the Rec Board would take care of the issues. She took the post down, but it still hasn't been taken care of. Amber and Stacey will see if the person that said they could help before can still do it, but they feel like the Rec Board should have to pay for it. Mitsy asked that she be notified prior to work beginning so that she can keep her dogs in. Amber Hendrickson has concerns about the condition of the dugout roofs. She said that the roofs are falling off.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Melinda Jobe