

**MINUTES
REGULAR CALLED MEETING
LAKES AND LANDS COMMISSION
JANUARY 17TH, 2018**

A Regular Called Meeting of the Lakes and Lands Commission was held Wednesday, January 17th, 2018, at the Lawton Public Library, Meeting Room 2 and was called to order by Co-Chairman, Bob Dismuke at 4:15 p.m. Notice of the meeting and agenda were posted on the City Hall bulletin board as required by state law.

ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Duncan, Bob Dismuke, Richard Campbell, Donald Ryans, Sean Fortenbaugh, JC Grayson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mike Slavin

STAFF PRESENT: Jack Hanna, Parks and Recreation Director; Keith Neitzke, Parks and Grounds Administrator; Jim Bonnarens, Lakes Maintenance Supervisor; Misty Roberts, Lakes Admin Asst. I; Bill Jenkins, Lake Patrol;

OTHERS PRESENT:

Dismuke asked for considerations of the minutes from the Special Called Meeting November 15th, 2017. There was no discussion and a motion by **Grayson and a second by Ryans to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously for the approval of the minutes for November 15th, 2017 meeting.**

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: None

New Business:

1. Discuss a parcel of land that is located in the City of Lawton to be swapped for a parcel of land around Lake Lawtonka.

Hanna states that a gentleman has a parcel of land that is located in Lawton on 38th street next to Kid Zone (approx. 7.65 acres) that currently has a sign up showing the area is proposed to be a Medical Office complex. The gentleman wants to trade this land for a parcel at Lake Lawtonka south of Granite Point RV Park (approx. 15.75 acres). From what information they have gathered, the owner of the 7.65ac parcel wants to trade that parcel for the 15.75ac parcel at the lake and sub-divide into a housing area. Hanna states the he and staff is have reservations about this idea. Future plans for the Parks and Recreation Department would be to close current entries into East Camp Ground build an office and main entry to aid in controlling ingress and egress to all recreation areas.

Hanna recommends not trading the property and does not think it is in the best interest of the City.

Fortenbaugh makes a motion to not approve the trade of land and **Duncan** seconds the motion.

AYES: Duncan, Dismuke, Campbell, Ryans, Fortenbaugh, Grayson

2. Discuss and take action of the leasing of Fisherman's Cove and the leasing of baling property.

Hanna states that they have an individual that is interested in leasing Fisherman's Cove. The person interested has submitted a "generic" proposal that they received minutes before the meeting. Hanna states that the proposal would have to be sent to legal for review and formally offered for bid before any consideration could be made. Hanna states that the individual would like to lease Fisherman's Cove, tear down the old restaurant, construct new dry stalls, and provide adequate camping sites. The lease agreement would include portions of property not solely at the end of road, but possibly to include some of the bailing lease area. The majority of the space would be the existing recreation area known as Fisherman's Cove (the dock, camp ground sites, store, etc.) and that he would do all the upgrades to the area. Hanna states that this will have to go out for an RFP and states that the individual does have the financial and equipment resources to improve the area. Jack and Keith both suggest to review the individuals proposal and have an RFP put out for more possible options, to include anything else the Commission would like to add. It would then go to legal to review and council to accept.

Duncan makes a motion to consider the leasing of Fisherman's Cove and the leasing of baling property. **Grayson** seconds the motion.

Ayes: Duncan, Dismuke, Campbell, Ryans, Fortenbaugh, Grayson

3. Discuss and take action raising the fee's of boating, golf carts, 4-wheelers, hunting and fishing permits that have not been raised since 2001.

Roberts states that she has contact with many customers during the year and several have made statements that our hunting and fishing permits were the cheapest in the state. With this statement, she has researched when the last increase to the City's permits occurred and found it was in 2001. Roberts included a spreadsheet with a suggested outline of the price increases could be and states that she included a significant jump on jug line fishing permits due to the amount of fish being harvested for the \$15.00 per year fee the City charges. On several occasions, reports have approached catching over 1500 to 2000 pounds of filleted fish a year.

Dismuke asked if there were any thoughts on the proposal.

Duncan states that he does agree that current rates need to be raised at some point, but would like a percentage of the revenue to stay with the lakes division.

Roberts states that she has asked for feedback from customers regarding a price increase and many have said they would pay it, but would like to see more improvements with the increased cost of the permits. Roberts states that all funds collected from the sale of permits and camping currently go to the general fund for the City of Lawton.

Campbell asked if there was any way the funds, or at least a percentage of revenue collected, could be used specifically at the lakes.

Hanna states if we draft it to where the City will not lose any general fund money and specify what percentage will go to general fund, we could identify project(s) showing where the revenue would specifically be used. Hanna states that City council would have the final approval on the proposal.

Campbell asked if the extra funds collected could be used for specific projects.

Hanna responds that yes it can, but City Council would have the final approval on that.

Nietzke states that one issue is coming up with actual figures regarding the number of permits sold. Currently, we have multiple vendors, including the Lakes Division, that sell permits and

there is no way of tracking what other outside vendors sell. All money is turned into License and Permits and deposited into the general fund. They may have records to show revenue collected but staff only has our records for permits sold.

Duncan makes a motion to have a resolution drafted with percentage detailed and revisit the item once this has been done. **Campbell** seconds the motion.

Ayes: Duncan, Dismuke, Campbell, Ryans, Fortenbaugh, Grayson

REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE:

A. Reports from Parks and Grounds Director, Jack Hanna

Hanna reports that we are very close to finalizing Ralphs Resort restroom. Ryan called a couple of weeks ago and needed a couple of numbers and the finance department supplied him with the information for his reports to go out.

B. Reports from Parks and Grounds Administrator, Keith Neitzke

Neitzke reports that Jim and the crew are doing a great job on keeping up with all the projects going on at the lakes.

C. Reports from the Lakes Division Supervisor, Jim Bonnarens

Bonnarens reports that they are just trying to keep things from breaking. We have been having issues with the restroom heaters and have had to repair a couple of times at the two oldest bathrooms. They have been painting the restrooms and working on other preventive maintenance items as they come up.

Bonnarens also states that they have been working with the state to clean up various illegal “noodling” sites where people have dumped bathtubs, barrels etc.

D. Reports from Lake Patrol Staff, Lt. Bill Jenkins

Jenkins comments that maybe one day if any of the commission members would like, they could get in touch with him and he could take them to Ellsworth and show them the condition the boat house is in.

-COMMENTS/DISCUSSION/ADJOURNMENT

There were no other reports, correspondence, or discussion and the meeting adjourned by unanimous decision of the Commission at 5:00 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY THE
LAKES AND LAND COMMISSION
CHAIRMAN, MARK DUNCAN