

Minutes of the Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting

March 5, 2025 @ 5:30pm

Executive Conference Room

The Parks and Recreation Committee met on March 5, 2025 at 5:30pm in the Executive Conference room of the Williamson County Administrative Complex. Committee members present were Steve Smith, Ricky Jones, Chris Richards and Bill Petty. Committee member David O'Neil and Jennifer Mason were not present.

Also present were Bobby Cook, Attorney with Buerger, Moseley and Carson and Gordon Hampton, Parks and Recreation Director.

Chairman Smith noted no one signed up for Citizen Communication, then called for the acceptance of the January 7, 2025 minutes. Commissioner Jones made a motion to accept, seconded by Commissioner Richards. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 4-0.

Committee members reviewed the following resolution

- **Proposed Amendment To Resolution 3-25-11 Insert A New 4th WHEREAS Statement As Follows: WHEREAS, the permitted land values to be utilized as the local match , includes an appraisal of the College Grove property of \$2,259,000 and the Wilkins Branch property appraisal of \$1,265,000;** Commissioner Richards made a motion to recommend approval, seconded by Commissioner Petty. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 4-0.
- **Resolution No. 3-25-11 - Resolution Of The Governing Body Of Williamson County, Tennessee Supporting An Application To Participate In The Local Parks And Recreation Fund Grant For The Construction Of Improvements For College Grove And Wilkins Branch Outdoor Parks.** Commissioner Jones made a motion to recommend approval, seconded by Commissioner Richards. Parks and Recreation Director Gordon Hampton explained to the Committee that this Resolution was for the application of the LPRF Grant and further information would be available at the open public meeting on March 19, 2025 at 7:00pm at the Hillsboro Leiper's Fork Community Center and March 20, 2025 at 6:30pm at the College Grove Artsitorium. The land values would cover the cost of the 50% matching funds required by the state. Commissioner Petty inquired how the value of the properties would be used as matching funds. Legal Counsel Bobby Cook explained that the value of land and the money invested in the properties by the Parks and Recreation Department would be considered collateral for the grant application. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 4-0.
- **Resolution No. 3-25-10 – Resolution Authorizing The Williamson County Mayor To Enter Into A Grant Contract with The State Of Tennessee, Department Of Environment And Conservation And Appropriating And Amending The 2024-25 Parks And Recreation Budget By \$3,172,500.00 – Revenues To Come From Grant Funds.** Commissioner Jones made a motion to recommend approval, seconded by Commissioner Petty. Director Hampton told the committee that this LPRF Grant is for improvements to Osburn and Castle Parks. He reminded the Commissioners about the public open meeting on March 19th and 20th . The Grant would fund improvements at Castle Park including equestrian riding rings, spectator seating, lighting, concessions and restrooms. Improvements at Osburn Park include tennis, pickle ball courts, playgrounds and parking. This grant requires a 50% match which will consist of a \$1 million fund match and a land match that will cover the remaining \$1,172,500.00 of the match. Commissioner Richards stated he feels the county needs to set priorities of spending at levels of importance. He wonders why the Sheriff's office cannot purchase patrol cars and equipment and the Parks and Recreation Department can take 1 million from the General Fund Balance to receive grant funding for Parks improvements. He feels it is more important to the citizens of Williamson County if we spend money on law enforcement. Commissioner Petty agreed that there are other issues of greater importance to spend money on other than park improvements, such as law enforcement and new schools. Commissioner Jones asked Director Hampton how much money the Parks and Recreation Department generates to the General fund Balance. Director Hampton responded that the Parks and Recreation Department collects around \$12 million dollars a year to the General Fund Balance. The motion to recommend approval failed with a vote of 2-2, with Commissioners Richards and Petty voting no.

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- **Resolution No. 3-25-3 – Resolution Appropriating And Amending The 2024-25 Parks And Recreation Budget By \$428,000.00 – Revenues To Come From Parks And Recreation Fees.** Commissioner Jones made a motion to recommend approval, seconded by Commissioner Petty. Director Hampton explained that the fees collected from a multitude of classes and athletic leagues are to pay for contracts at the Perfuming Arts Center, Instructors and refunds to participants unable to make a class or activity. There we no questions from the committee. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 4-0.
- **Resolution No. 3-25-2 – Resolution Appropriating And Amending The 2024-25 Parks And Recreation Budget By \$123,085.00 – Revenues To Come From Donations.** Director Hampton reported to the Committee that donations totaling \$112,035.00 have been received from the Community Youth Association to offset the hiring and scheduling of officials and supervisors and upgrades to the facilities. Nolensville Youth Association donated \$7,300.00 towards the purchase of ballfield netting and \$750.00 was donated to the Children’s Theater and the Kite Festival. Director Hampton was appreciative for a \$3,000.00 donation from Mr. Ed Vining of Franklin for the Timberland Nature Park. No questions were asked by the Committee. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 4-0.

Adjourn: There being no further business the meeting adjourned at approximately 5:55pm

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