

GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL

WORKSHOP SUMMARY

February 28, 2005

The City Council of the City of Grand Junction, Colorado met on Monday, February 28, 2005 at 11:35 a.m. in the Administration Conference Room to discuss workshop items. Those present were Councilmembers Harry Butler, Cindy Enos-Martinez, Bill McCurry, Gregg Palmer, Jim Spehar and President of the Council Bruce Hill. Councilmember Dennis Kirtland was absent. City Staff present were City Manager Kelly Arnold, City Attorney John Shaver, Assistant City Manager David Varley, Management Intern Seth Hoffman, Communication and Community Relations Coordinator Sam Rainguet, Parks and Recreation Director Joe Stevens, Park Planner Shawn Cooper and City Clerk Stephanie Tuin.

Summary and Action on the following topic:

1. **SCHOOL BOND ISSUE PROJECTS, BURKEY PARK AND THE BLUFFS WEST PROJECT:** There were numerous parks issues that the Department had included in the memo. Council President Hill expressed that it is critical that the budget be taken into consideration. He noted that some dollars were originally budgeted for a neighborhood park so Council needs to know the status of planning for Bluffs West and Burkey Park. A discussion needs to take place on what Council has in mind for Lincoln Park, i.e., in order to finalize the Master Plan, and then look at the BLM agreement last for the property off of Monument Road.

City Manager Arnold advised there is \$485,000 budgeted for a neighborhood park. Bluffs West is one of the possible locations. Parks Director Joe Stevens said the legal department is working out some ownership issues. City Attorney Shaver assured the Council they are minor and will be resolved. Mr. Stevens noted there is no Master Plan for the park and several items have been discussed including a connection to the Riverfront Trail and parking for the trailhead.

Councilmember Gregg Palmer stated that the City had 18 acres donated by the Burkey family in 1967 and has yet to annex or improve the property into a park site as promised to the Burkeys. He feels it is time to honor the commitment, at least moving forward with some improvements so the Burkeys could see that in their lifetime. Council agreed but wanted to take a more planned approach in conjunction with their Strategic Plan goal to review the Parks Master Plan.

It was noted that a team (Councilmembers Enos-Martinez, Butler and McCurry plus a member from the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board) has been assigned to begin that review and will begin shortly.

City Manager Arnold related that the Council has been asked to participate with the School District regarding their construction projects using the recently approved bond funds which will be going forward quickly. In order to participate in the design of the additional gym at Bookcliff and the expanded gym at the new Pear Park school, \$41,000 in design work can be reallocated from the neighborhood park monies. The bids will be in May so a commitment to the School District will have to be made around then.

Councilmember Palmer was agreeable with Burkey Plan being planned but asked that annexation of the property be initiated.

Regarding the Lincoln Park Master Plan, the Council discussed keeping the golf element, moving the maintenance facility, keeping the barn and eliminating the diagonal access road. The accounting for Lincoln Park Golf Course as an enterprise fund was discussed with City Manager Arnold advising that perhaps it should be split out from the Tiara Rado enterprise fund, maintained separately, and subsidized by the general fund. A discussion ensued that Lincoln Park as a whole has many more elements in it other than golf and perhaps making it a part of the general fund would be a good approach.

Lastly, Parks & Recreation Director Joe Stevens advised that the scoreboard at Suplezio Field is being replaced and Mesa State College would like the old one. City Council had no problem with the donation as long as it was accounted for.

Action summary: Council consented to going ahead with design work in conjunction with the School District to expand the Pear Park school gym and construct a pad site for an additional gym at Bookcliff school. The rest of the construction can be programmed into the budget (or not) through the review of the Parks Master Plan. Council directed Staff to initiate annexation proceedings for Burkey Park. Staff was directed to work with the consultants on the Lincoln Park Master Plan to keep the nine hole golf course, re-routing some of the holes if possible, move the maintenance facility, keep the barn and eliminate the access road. City Council approved the change of Lincoln Park Golf Course from an enterprise fund into a general fund entity. Donation of the scoreboard will need a value determined and a resolution brought to City Council for formal action.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:59 p.m.