

City of Ingleside
Minutes
Special City Council Meeting
Tuesday, August 18, 2020
6:30 PM

1. Call Meeting to Order

The Special City Council Meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m., with Mayor Ronnie Parker presiding.

2. Roll Call

Council Members present: Council Member Diehl, Council Member Wilson, Council Member Tucker, and Mayor Ronnie Parker.

3. Invocation

4. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Ronnie Parker, convened the Special City Council Meeting at 6:34 p.m., to allow the Ingleside Development Corporation to complete their Regular Meeting.

Mayor Ronnie Parker, opened the Special City Council Meeting at 6:39 p.m., and thanked the IDC Board for allowing the joint meeting to update the City Council on the Master Parks Plan.

Jodi Carr, Director of Economic Development, introduced Gayle Katalenas and Brian Nichols from Freese and Nichols, who were joining via Zoom Meeting.

5. Presentation by Freese and Nichols on the Parks Master Plan. This presentation to include review, discussion, direction, and possible action.

The presentation included the process overview, a summary of Parks and Recreation needs, goals and draft recommendations, and concept plans. Comments and questions will need to be turned in to Jodi Carr, Director of Economic Development, by August 26, 2020.

Jodi Carr, Director of Economic Development, commented there are future plans for the library expansion, which is where the projected senior garden area use is currently planned.

Council Member Steve Diehl, asked if this was the first time the IDC had seen this plan. The IDC members commented this was the first time seeing the plan. Council Member Diehl, asked where the ideas for the civic center came from. Gayle from Freese and Nichols, commented that David Huseman, City Manager, had the idea of the civic center, along with citizens comments.

Mayor Parker, commented that the ball fields will not be moved from Faith Park, and that recently the ball fields were discussed in a City Council Meeting. Mayor Parker, commented that a large Civic Center, as proposed, would be expensive and would need to be centrally located in the City.

Teresa Flores, Vice President of the IDC, clarified that this is the first time the IDC has seen the Parks Master Plan presentation, and not a recommendation of the IDC.

Ben Tucker, member of the IDC and Ingleside City Council, commented this was the first time seeing the concept, and was not in agreement with the Civic Center, Splash Pad, and would rather have a full-size swimming pool.

Linnette Barker, Interim City Manager, commented in the proposed budget, the City has proposed to rebuild the Garden Center in the same area.

Jodi Carr, Director of Economic Development, asked if the IDC could bring to the City Council comparison costs regarding refurbishing the swimming pool versus building a new pool at N. O. Simmons Park. Council Member Diehl, Council Member Wilson, and Mayor Parker, commented they would be in agreement. Linnette Barker, Interim City Manager, commented that the cost for an assessment of the pool as it stands, costs \$600-\$700. Mariana Rodriguez, Director of Parks and Recreation, commented the cost estimate would be to access the pumps and such on the pool. Cindy Wilson, IDC Board Member, asked where were the funds that the insurance company paid regarding Hurricane Harvey damages to the pool. Mayor Parker, commented he understood there were no monies paid for the swimming pool, only the fencing and pool building received insurance monies.

Mayor Parker, commented he would like to put the swimming pool on the City Council Agenda, in order to give guidance to the IDC.

Teresa Flores, Vice President of the IDC, commented that the pool has to be changed to appeal to the community.

Brian Nichols from Freese and Nichols, continued with the presentation.

Cindy Wilson, IDC Board Member, asked if a copy of the presentation, and a copy of the questions that need to be answered will be sent in the near future. Gayle Katalenas from Freese and Nichols commented that they would be sent to Jodi Carr, Director of Economic Development this evening for distribution.

Council Member Ben Tucker, commented he would not be in favor of: Trees being removed in Live Oak Park, a swimming pool at Live Oak Park, or overnight parking in Live Oak Park.

Council Member Diehl, commented he was not supportive of all the proposed pavilions and amphitheaters. He commented his focus is what can be done for existing citizens, and citizens need a swimming pool. Council Member Diehl, commented to consider lighting in the Master Parks Plan.

Council Member Wilson, commented that if the Garden Center is rebuilt, it should blend in with the surrounding neighborhood.

Cindy Wilson, IDC Board Member, asked where the dog park will be located. Mayor Parker, commented it will be adjacent to the Animal Control Facility, at the Fourth Street location.

Mayor Parker, commented he would not support a Community Center at Faith Park. Regarding the tennis courts at Faith Park, Mayor Parker commented we should work with the school district.

Teresa Flores, Vice President of the IDC, commented the school district had shown interest in purchasing the land from the City to build tennis courts, as the school requests eight tennis courts to be built.

Mayor Parker, commented that he has no problem with the idea of revitalization or revamping of the swimming pool at Faith Park, and there would be an agenda item on the August 26, 2020 City Council Meeting.

Cindy Wilson, IDC Board Member, commented she wanted to focus on Faith Park and Live Oak Parks only. Regarding the swimming pool, she asked if a grant from Texas Parks and Wildlife was an option.

Gayle Katalenas, from Freese and Nichols, commented if the case can be made that a swimming pool is a top priority, it makes a stronger case for the grant from Texas Parks and Wildlife. This was confirmed by Mariana Rodriguez, Director of Parks and Recreation.

Cindy Wilson, IDC Board Member, commented that the senior garden area near the library was a great idea, and some type of ball fields need to be left at Faith Park.

Cindy Wilson, IDC Board Member, commenting that combining the Garden Center and pool area together might enlarge the area by taking down the old building.

Teresa Flores, Vice President of the IDC, asked if Freese and Nichols received some answers tonight. Gayle Katalenas, from Freese and Nichols, commented that some clarity on three items had been answered, no community center at Faith Park, no pool at Live Oak Park, and no additional land to be included at Live Oak Park.

Mayor Parker, commented that the community center is a no, tennis courts at Faith Park and Live Oak Park is a maybe, a sports complex at Live Oak Park is a maybe, a swimming pool at Faith Park, there is no additional land at Live Oak Park, festivals at Live Oak Park is a good idea, no overnight camping at Live Oak Park.

Council Member, Steve Diehl, commented that revamping and redesigning Cove Park would bring fishing tournaments to Ingleside.

Teresa Flores, Vice President of the IDC, commented she agreed with Council Member Diehl regarding Cove Park.

Jodi Carr, Director of Economic Development, commented there would not be much more of a concept plan for Cove Park, confirmed by Gayle Katalenas, from Freese and Nichols. She asked council if a fishing pier at Live Oak Park pond would be an area to explore. Mayor Parker, commented that could be a liability to the City. Jodi Carr, Director of Economic Development, commented that responses from City Council needs to be given to her no later than September 5, 2020, to give to Freese and Nichols.

Cindy Wilson, IDC Board Member, commented that the feedback from citizens regarding the Parks Programs are geared towards young children only. There are no activities for older children or seniors. Mayor Parker commented the Parks and Recreation Director needs to open programs for all ages.

Jodi Carr, Director of Economic Development, asked if the City Council could give guidance to the IDC regarding the pool and Garden Center by the first meeting in September.

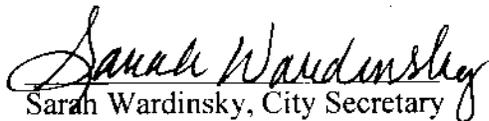
Council Member, Steve Diehl, made a motion, seconded by Mayor Parker, to direct the Interim City Manager, to develop cost estimates of revamping/rebuilding the pool and Garden Center. The motion passed unanimously.

Gayle Katalenas, from Freese and Nichols, requested for City Council to comment on the proposed Master Parks Plan, including removing items.

Mayor Parker, adjourned the meeting at 9:11 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:


Sarah Wardinsky, City Secretary


Mayor Ronnie Parker