



CITY OF PATASKALA
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

June 1, 2015

The Council of the City of Pataskala met in special session on June 1, 2015 at 6:00 PM in City Hall, located at 621 W. Broad Street. The pledge of allegiance was given and an invocation was provided. Roll Call: Fox, Hayes, Barstow, Sagar, Hickin, and Gibson-present. Lenzo joined the meeting already in session. Mayor Michael W. Compton presiding.

Mayor Compton stated, "The purpose of this special Council meeting/workshop is for the discussion of future park funding, operations, planning and programming."

Citizens' Comments

There were no Citizens' Comments

New Business

BJ King provided an overview of the Parks Board meeting on May 19, 2015 and financial information and funding information as it relates to potentially funding recreational programs by the City.

Mayor Compton reported that Charter Review survey states that the Parks are very important to the community.

Gibson explained that she has attended the Parks Board meetings. Noted that the City should run the parks and not a volunteer group in her point of view. As a Council member she would like to consider the funding for this project and mentioned a levy. Stated that there is a misunderstanding about how the recreation programs are run. Need to educate the public before it would be put on the levy. Only comfortable adding a Director at this time and not a whole department. Would like more information on what the new position would entail and would get that from the Parks Board.

Hickin is in support of the City taking over the Parks and Recreation. Had questions about the fees and what they are used for. Also asked other funding and operational questions. Questions answered by Andy Walther, President of the PRA. Agrees with Gibson on having one person at this time not a whole department. Andy Walther also pointed out that PRA has a step by step

instruction manual that can be used by anyone to manage the recreation program now in place. King had mentioned what the City will continue to provide and also about the underdeveloped parks the City has.

Lenzo thanked the Walther's for all their work they have done in this community. Council needs to talk about funding. Would like to have a parks committee. Wants to have some type of inventory list.

Sagar noted anything that she would have said was already mentioned. Pointed out she agrees with Gibson and Lenzo.

Hayes explained why two points made by BJ King mentioned earlier were not correct. Thanked for PRA. Has reservations about putting anything on the spring ballot and explained why. Sagar wanted to know how many participants are from outside of the City. Andy Walther explained. Ann Walther wanted to point that the parks director would not be just dealing with recreation but with also trails, green space, ponds and fish.

Fox agrees it is a good idea on the surface to go forward but wants the people to decide. Concerned about the streets funding and police. Does not believe this is a Council issue except to put it on the ballot.

Barstow thanked the Walther's. Agreed with Lenzo.


Andy Walther wanted to point out that PRA would help with anything the City would need in this transition if Council decides to go this route.

Fox made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Barstow. Roll Call: Hayes, Barstow, Sagar, Hickin, Lenzo, Gibson and Fox-yes. Mayor Compton declared the motion passed.

Meeting Adjourned.

Minutes approved June 15, 2015

ATTEST:


Kathy M. Hoskinson, Clerk of Council


Melissa Gibson, Council President