

City of Worland  
Buildings and Grounds Commission  
Regular Meeting  
April 9, 2007

The Building and Grounds Commission met on Monday, April 9, 2007 at 6:37 P.M. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Commission Members in attendance were: Chairman Jerry Alexander, Councilmember Shane Anderson and Councilmember Vasca Gilmore. Also in attendance were: Clerk/Treasurer Tracy Glanz, Superintendent of Public Works Gene Cliame, Parks Maintenance Worker Mark Osbon, and Clerk Tammy Maya. Golf Pro Don Abbott and Golf Course Superintendent Ben Bishop were absent.

Visitors were Jilaena Childs from the Northern Wyoming Daily News, Fred Frandson representing the API Tournament, Jim Marshall representing the Worland Golf Course Advisory Board, and Gordon Neumann.

The minutes of the March 12, 2007 meeting were moved for approval by Councilmember Shane Anderson and seconded by Councilmember Vasca Gilmore. The motion was approved unanimously.

Under business of visitors, Chairman Jerry Alexander invited Fred Frandson to speak. Fred stated that he wanted to address rumors that had been circulating around town and verify their validity. The rumors were that the back nine at the Golf Course were going to be shut down and that the Golf Professional let go. Jerry expressed surprise and stated that he hadn't heard either rumor. Councilmember Vasca Gilmore stated that she had heard the rumor about the back nine being closed. Jerry explained that he knows of no plans to close the back nine holes of the golf course and that the City is still in negotiations with Golf Pro Don Abbott to have his contract run from July to June to help with budgeting as the City's fiscal year is July to June. Vasca verified that contract negotiations had been taking place. Fred stated that the many tournaments that come to Worland bring in out of town players who in turn utilize other businesses in Worland. The majority of tournaments are sanctioned through the USGA and to sanction an event; the course must have a golf professional. Fred reminded the commission that these events are big money makers for charities and businesses alike.

Chairman Jerry Alexander stated that Golf Professional Don Abbott is doing an excellent job and that the City is happy with his performance, to his knowledge. The hold up is contract negotiations related to the current contract expiration dates and the City's fiscal year end. Jerry foresees a mutually beneficial compromise during the coming budget season which begins in approximately two weeks. Councilmember Shane Anderson stated that Don's contract will be renewed after details are worked out. Councilmember Vasca Gilmore expressed her concern with the new contract expiration date which leaves Don in an undesirable position should the City at any time choose not to renew his contract. Clerk/Treasurer Tracy Glanz suggested including clauses giving the golf professional additional time to find new employment should that occur. Fred Frandson stated that the API tournament will be at the end of July and losing the golf professional would be very bad. Jerry asked Fred to talk briefly about the API tournament. Fred stated that the tournament is for scholarships to local kids. The fee to play is \$65 of which approximately 15% goes to green fees; 100% of profits go to scholarships totaling \$10,000.

Jim Marshall of the Worland Golf Course Advisory Board added that the American National Bank tournament brings in approximately 90 to 110 people with 50% of those from out of town. He does not want to see the back nine shut down or to lose the golf professional. He also stated that the greens fees have increased but the level of grounds maintenance has decreased in his opinion. Chairman Jerry Alexander agreed that the maintenance may be behind but weather conditions have hampered it. Fred Frandson stated that he felt the rumors were being detrimental to the Golf Course and wanted to address

them publicly to squash them. Jerry restated that the City plans to continue an 18 hole golf course with the current golf professional pending any budget problems that may occur. The legislature has already reduced revenues for the City by taking away the food sales tax. More information will be known in the coming weeks during budget planning.

Fred Frandson stated that the City has lots of employees and that the golf course employees deserve to be paid a good wage. Chairman Jerry Alexander confirmed that the City employs fifty-one people currently, all of whom are good employees and that the City Council must be fair to all of them. Jim Marshall stated that the fees collected for this year are down but he attributes that to nothing being done on the course as of April 1, 2007. He believes people are waiting for the greens to be swept and mowed, and for the sprinklers to be run. Jerry stated that the sprinklers haven't been run due to the weather and the fact that the canal has no water. Councilmember Vasca Gilmore asked how many employees the Golf Course had. Clerk/Treasurer Tracy Glanz stated that there are three full time; six to nine seasonal. Superintendent of Public Works Gene Cliame stated that he thought Golf Course Superintendent Ben Bishop was waiting for school to release to hire his seasonal staff. Jerry checked the latest payroll report and confirmed that there are four employees in the Golf Course department currently, with one part-time employee.

In old business, Councilmember Vasca Gilmore asked about the status of the restrooms at Newell Sargent Park. Parks Maintenance Worker Mark Osbon confirmed that they are not yet open. Superintendent of Public Works Gene Cliame added that he did not have figures for the replacement of the concession stand and bathrooms yet from the Worland Baseball Board or Worland Recreation District. Mark encouraged Vasca to attend the Worland Recreation Board meeting this Thursday, April 12, at 11:30 a.m. in the City Council chambers to learn more. Vasca asked if remodeling was an option. Gene stated that he didn't think it was. Mark stated that in his opinion if the broken fixtures were replaced and the interior painted that the facilities would be able to last until a replacement could be planned and implemented. Vasca asked if the roof leaked on the concession stand and Mark stated that he was not aware of any leaks. Gene added that the Worland Recreation Board is working with the City to come up with a plan. Chairman Jerry Alexander suggested that he meet Councilmembers Vasca Gilmore and Shane Anderson there to see the condition of the facilities.

Superintendent of Public Works Gene Cliame stated that during events the restrooms are cleaned two to three times a day. Parks Maintenance Worker Mark Osbon added that the concession stand has been cleared by the Health Department to sell food. Councilmember Vasca Gilmore stated that she thought it would be good to advertise the clean up. Gene agreed that this might encourage better supervision of children by parents. Chairman Jerry Alexander agreed and said that after the City does the clean up that we would need to go to the Worland Baseball Board and see what it is that they are planning. Mark stated that the biggest complaint he hears is the length of the walk to field #4. Vasca asked if there was a curfew in the parks of 10:00 p.m. and if not she would like to bring it up at the next council meeting to help deter vandals. She stated that the park gates used to be locked after curfew. Gene stated that the Police do not want the gates locked because vandals are just going in on foot.

Parks Maintenance Worker Mark Osbon reported that the Sanders Park project was at a standstill due to running out of wood chips. He is waiting for the Worland Recreation Board to buy more and then they will finish it up. Chairman Jerry Alexander asked if the playground was handicap accessible. Mark confirmed that there is a ramp located at the gazebo to allow handicap accessibility.

Councilmember Vasca Gilmore asked Superintendent of Public Works Gene Cliame if he was aware of the problem at the corner of 13<sup>th</sup> & Coburn by Bob Bayuk's residence. Gene stated that he was aware that leaves and yard waste accumulate in the gutter there. He stated that the sweeper can clean up some of the problem provided that vehicles aren't parked on the street. Mr. Bayuk would be responsible for the

replacement and/or repair of the curb and gutter. Chairman Jerry Alexander asked Gene to have the dumpster located in front of the Movie Center replaced as it is beat up and an eyesore on Big Horn Ave. Vasca asked if the City had an ordinance for licensing cats like the one to license dogs. Jerry confirmed that the City does and that the animals are caught using live traps and impounded.

Clerk/Treasurer Tracy Glanz asked for an executive session to discuss a personnel matter. The commission went into executive session at 7:30 p.m.

At the conclusion of the executive session, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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Jerry Alexander, Chairman

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Tammy Maya, Clerk