



Wednesday, July 17, 2024

## **Council Hears Presentation on Proposed Recreation Complex**

A representative of ISG, Inc. presented the Boone City Council with siting and facility details for a proposed recreation complex during the council's regular meeting on Monday evening.

ISG, Inc., a multi-state architecture, engineering, environmental and planning firm that has a Des Moines-based team, is providing consulting services to the city.

The site-selection process identified three potential sites. One is south of U.S. 30, another is on the city's north side, but the third, centrally located site was determined to have the most advantages. Those assets include pedestrian access and walkability, trail connections to Cap Erbe Park, proximity to schools, and potential for future development.

The complex's conceptual design, based around programming feedback from the community during the site selection process, includes four multi-use courts for basketball, volleyball, pickleball and a retractable turf option. Other features include a walking track, a play area, conference room, offices, indoor flex space and outside multi-use space with natural grass.

The conceptual design allows for future building additions and a future indoor aquatics space. The current estimated project cost to develop 22 acres, which includes stormwater detention, parking, a new road and the 37,000-square-foot building is \$19.7 Million, according to ISG.

The city has previously set aside funds for land acquisition. Council members directed the city staff to develop language for a potential \$10 million bond referendum to be placed on the Nov. 5 general election ballot. That is the amount of borrowing that could be financed with currently anticipated local option tax funding. A committee has been formed to raise the remaining \$9.7 million through private sources.

In other business, the council:

- Approved the hiring of Nathan Osmundson, effective Aug. 1, as the city's full-time recreation director. Osmundson has been a recreation coordinator with the City of Johnston since January 2017. He also served as a recreation specialist and coordinator for the City of Des Moines from 2013 to 2017. Osmundson earned a bachelor's degree in parks, recreational and leisure studies from the University of Northern Iowa in 2005.
- Approved certification of a preliminary plat for the Prairie Place subdivision, which is on undeveloped land on the 1220 block of South Marshall Street. The preliminary plat consists of 23 residential townhouse building lots, a multifamily lot with three eight-plex apartment buildings and two lots of two commercial buildings. The project will have a public roadway, which will be named Ida Place, and a stormwater detention pond to service the Hunziker Development Co. project.
- Approved the appointment of Ondrea Elmquist as assistant city administrator/city clerk.
- Awarded a \$659,500 contract to WRH, Inc., of Amana to undertake and complete the lime slaker replacement project for the city's water treatment facility. The bid was reviewed and recommended to the council by the Short Elliott Hendrickson engineering firm. The only other bid was \$743,700, which was submitted by Woodruff Construction, Inc., of Ames.
- Awarded a \$1,036,409 contract to the Black Hawk Roof Co., of Waterloo to re-roof six buildings at the city's water and wastewater treatment facilities.