

The January 13, 2025 Work Session of the Glenwood Park Board was called to order by Chairman Randy Romens.

Roll Call: Randy Romens, Malcolm McCue, Vanessa Covington, Chelsey Mass, Councilman Mike Lines, Park Employee Devin Tadin, Interim City Administrator Joe George, City Administrator Mitch Kolf

New City Administrator Mitch Kolf introduced himself to the board.

Romens reported that the new budget has been submitted with very few changes from last year. Then Romens quickly went over all the locations that are part of our parks and rec system. Next, we went through the list of projects that have been accomplished in the last year or so. (See attachment) The board feels like there has been a lot of positive progress in the parks.

There was a brief discussion on whether or not the campground could be used year round. It has always been the board's understanding that the water had to be shut off, but Tadin said those lines were separate and did not have to be winterized. A couple board members had concerns about issues that long term campers could bring. Another concern was the electricity use. McCue brought up that we still need to discuss fees, expansion, etc. This discussion was tabled for now.

The board then looked over a list of possible projects at Lake Park. (See attachment) There was some discussion regarding the removal of the old playground equipment due to safety and insurance issues. Romens mentioned replacing it with an accessible playground. Mass and Covington stated that a better location would be where the "new" playground is located because the ground is level and it is near the larger shelters. Covington also mentioned that this is a very large project and in other towns it often takes the efforts of local citizens, civic groups, etc. Also, there is work being done to make Hiley Park more accessible. The discussion then moved to the possibility of putting gravel down at the old horseshoe pits to create a parking lot. Tadin said it is difficult to mow where the concrete pits are and people use it for parking already. The board decided to put this on the agenda for the next meeting. This also led to the discussion of removing the very large cottonwood tree from that area. We need to find a tree removal service able to take down a tree of that size because it is becoming an eyesore and a safety hazard.

The board then had a brief discussion on the possibility of hiring a third full time employee. Tadin stated that there is a list of things that just isn't getting done due to lack of time and manpower. Some of the budgeted money for summer part time help goes unused because it is hard to find reliable people for those positions. The board questioned whether this could ever be approved for the budget, but agrees that it is worth further discussion.

Next, the board looked at our 1/3/5 year plan. We crossed some things off the list that had been accomplished and moved other items up or back on the list. Romens will update this project list and make it available. Some items discussed were updating lights at city field because some are a safety hazard, removing or replacing the bleachers at Little Rams field due to rotting and safety, building a dedicated park shop with room for all they need and running water/restroom, finishing the solar light project around the lake, major infrastructure updates, and the potential of using Troutman Field as a location for a dog park. It was also brought up that we need to work on assigning a monetary value to these projects.

For our regular monthly meeting on Thursday, we will add to the agenda: horseshoe pit discussion, use agreements, and review of this work session.

The meeting was adjourned.



Vanessa Covington, Secretary



Randy Romens, Chairperson