

**CLEARWATER PARK COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 9, 2025**

**1. Call to Order: 5:30 p.m. at City Hall**

- Chair Petty called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present included Petty, Schindele, and Senn. Member Dufour was absent. Also present was City Administrator Smythe.

**2. Oaths of Office**

- Petty completed a new Oath of Office.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

- **MOTION** by Senn to approve agenda as presented, seconded by Schindele, all voted aye. **MOTION CARRIED 3-0.**

**4. Approval of Minutes from March 10, 2025 Meeting**

- **MOTION** by Schindele to approve minutes from March 10, 2025 meeting as presented, seconded by Senn, all voted aye. **MOTION CARRIED 3-0.**

**5. Public Forum**

- None.

**6. Old Business**

**a. Splash Pad Project Update**

- Administrator Smythe updated that the splash pad equipment has been ordered and is expected sometime in August. A list of installation vendors was also received from the equipment vendor. Smythe is working on putting together the public bid for installation.
- Member Senn asked for clarification about whether water testing will be required. Smythe explained that water testing is not required with this system because it is a clean water system rather than recycled water.
- Smythe also noted that the temporary picnic shelter at El Dorado Park that was in the planned splash pad location has now been moved to another place in the park, so the site is ready.

**b. Discuss Pavilion Plans**

- Smythe had met with Mr. Franklin and discussed the funding plans for the proposed rugby pavilion. It likely will require the city to fund \$1 million - \$1.5 million of the total project costs, which would require the issuance of debt. Members discussed project costs, fundraising options, and the benefits to the city. Members felt it might make sense to design a different plan or possibly adjust this plan to provide better public benefits given the amount of money that is planned. Since so much of the current design is dedicated to locker room space, the benefits for the general public are more limited.
- Members suggested working on a list of city priorities for the facility and then meeting again with Mr. Franklin to see if there is a way to reconcile city priorities and team priorities.
- Members were also concerned about the coming expiration of the Local Option Sales Tax and how that would impact the city's ability to fund the project. Members suggested this project was more a long-term project rather than an immediate project.

## 7. New Business

### a. Review of "Name a Park" Voting

- Members discussed the list of finalists for the Name a Park contest and the voting results. The top vote-getter was Depot Park.
- Member Petty stated that while he respected the votes of the public, he felt very strongly that the park should be named to honor Vern Scott, current Planning Commissioner, former Council Member, and former Board Member of several city boards. He stated that serving the community is a large commitment and that Mr. Scott's contributions to the community are notably extensive. He has served both as a city official for many years but also as a volunteer with several community organizations. He remains one of only a handful of residents to whom people turn when looking for historical information or records about the city.
- Members Schindele and Senn concurred.
- **MOTION** by Petty to recommend that the new park be named Scott Park in honor of Mr. Vern Scott, seconded by Schindele, all voted aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

### b. Other Business

- None.

## 8. Reports

### a. Local Option Sales Tax Financial Report

- Members discussed the fund balance of the Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) fund, along with the anticipated end date of 2028. Smythe explained that according to the city attorney, a referendum would be needed to extend the LOST. Legislative approval may also be needed, but the laws are still being reviewed by the state and a new moratorium is currently in place.
- Members discussed hosting an open house for the public to learn about the park projects that were completed using LOST funds and to gauge the level of public support for extending it.

### b. Project Status Report

- Members were asked to review the project list and send any updates or changes to staff.
- Member Schindele asked if staff could repair the broken swings on the east side of Riverside Park.
- Chair Petty asked if staff could get clarification on who is responsible for the needed overlay of the County Road 75 trail.

## 9. Next Meeting Date

### a. July 14, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

- Next meeting date confirmed for July 14, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

## 10. Adjournment

- **MOTION** to adjourn by Schindele, seconded by Senn, all voted aye. **MOTION CARRIED 3-0.**  
Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

ATTEST

  
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Annita M. Smythe, City Administrator