

**THE MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE MAYOR AND  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILLCOX, COCHISE COUNTY, AZ  
HELD ON THIS 17th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2012**

**CALL TO ORDER**- Mayor Bob Irvin called the work session meeting to order on Monday, September 17, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance

**ROLL CALL**-City Clerk Virginia A. Mefford, called the roll:

**PRESENT**

Mayor Robert A. Irvin  
Vice Chairman Bill Holloway  
Councilman Gerald W. Lindsey  
Councilman Elwood A. Johnson  
~~Councilwoman Monika Cronberg~~  
Councilman Earl Goolsby  
Councilman William "Bill" Nigh

**STAFF**

City Manager Pat McCourt  
City Clerk Virginia A. Mefford  
City Attorney Ann P. Roberts  
Finance Director Ruth Graham  
Public Services & Works Director Dave Bonner  
Development Services Jeff Stoddard  
Library Director Tom Miner

**ABSENT**

Councilwoman Cronberg- Excused

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG** lead by Mayor Irvin

**DECLARATION ON CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

None Declared

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Councilman Johnson moved to adopt the agenda as presented.

**SECONDED:** Vice Chairman Holloway seconded the motion. **CARRIED**

**DISCUSSION REGARDING PARK FEES**

Mr. Bonner explained the Park Fees the Council asked to be reworked. Mr. Bonner went through the pages in the back-up. Council asked if there was any usage fee now. Mr. Bonner stated there were no usage fees at this time only an application fee of \$50.00. Mr. Bonner explained line by line on the Rodeo Ground fees that have been charged in the past. He asked the Council if they had any questions. Councilman Johnson asked how the charges going to be managed. Are we going to put someone in charge of this and ensure everything is going to be checked? For example if someone reserves it on Friday and then someone comes in behind them and uses it and trashes it, who will be the one managing this? Because, if no one checks on it until Monday; how are you going to assess the deposit because someone could have used it between those times? Mr. Bonner stated this is something we are looking into. He then explained that the reason the lights are more expensive at Quail Park is because it represents two fields. Mr. Goolsby asked does that explain why the difference on cost at the Rodeo grounds is because of the usage is dependent on the event. Mr. Bonner stated yes. Council asked have you done a cost analysis on this to see if you recover your cost. Mr. Bonner stated it would not recover all the cost but it would help off set it, this is why the staff is asking to establish a fee structure to help. Mr. Goolsby stated you just said something that makes this right "fee structure"; the council could waive the fee. Mr. Bonner stated with so many fee waivers in the past I would rather have a fee structure so we wouldn't have the fee waiver process. Councilman Johnsons stated we do have a list of regular fees we waive is this a question of generating revenue or off setting cost. Mr. Bonner stated we have not had a quorum for Parks and Recreation because we need to have at least three members that live within the cit limits and the meetings we were having were more of how are we going to go about the fee schedule. Councilman Johnson stated if we are going to have a fee structure we need have one specific person to run it. Mr. Bonner stated we are already doing the reservation and making sure it is ready for the scheduled time. Councilman Johnson stated we should just charge a flat rate and leave it. City Manager McCourt stated I keep hearing we need to run this like a business. This is not what we are talking about; we are trying to identify the individuals who are specifically requesting for their use not the public use. The general public shouldn't need to pay to use the public parks.

**THE MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE MAYOR AND  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILLCOX, COCHISE COUNTY, AZ  
HELD ON THIS 17th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2012**

Councilman Johnson asked what it would cost to install a swipe card to pay for the electricity. Mr. Bonner stated it would cost about \$2500. Mr. Lindsey stated I have a problem not charging the fee at Keiller Park it doesn't have to be excessive or anything and we should give the children a break to use it. Mr. Bonner stated we did give the children a break we cut their fees in half. He gave some comparisons to the Council of the Rodeo Grounds with various other towns that have one. Mr. Ward stated if someone is making a profit then they should pay to use the facilities. Mr. Bonner explained the City has to work over at the rodeo ground right before each event to get it prepared the cost is \$150. Councilman Johnson asked for a summary of cost analyses to maintain it. Councilman Goolsby stated I agree with Councilman Johnson, I have heard of people not receiving their deposit back, but I also agree with Vice Mayor Holloway it shouldn't cost community members to use the public parks. What we should do is call it a fee/deposit and be done with it. Mr. Bonner stated if we could do a non-refundable deposit it would be a lot better. On the Quail, Keiller and Railroad Parks it would be a non-refundable fee. Councilman Lindsey stated it wouldn't hurt to have a sign up that stated this is reserved from this time to that time. Councilman Johnson stated again, it goes back to management. City Manager McCourt stated we will have the occasion where someone will not play by the rules and the police will have to be called. Community member Mr. Paul Sheets stated I was at one of the City of Marana parks and I observed there were multiple signs around, there were city employees working, emptying trash and coming up to you to ensure you had the paperwork to have that facility, there is a lot of leg work that needs to be done to make this work. Mr. Trevor Ward stated I am here as a member of the community and not as a judge, and stated I'm pretty sure my tax dollars pay for a portion of the park and recreation. If I am making a profit for using the facilities I don't mind paying a fee, but for the youth groups to use it I don't think they should be charged. Little League is open to all youths up to the ages of 17 years old. It is a community event we don't charge for attendance. City Manager McCourt stated the fees discussed would not come close to covering the cost of operations of the various parks. Mayor stated we are out of time and we need to adjourn the work session and continue at a later time.

**ADJOURN**

Being no further business before the Mayor and Council Mayor Irvin adjourned the Work Session at 6:57 p.m.

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the special meeting of the City Council of the City of Willcox held on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of September 2012. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

**Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of September 2012**

/s/ Virginia A Mefford  
City Clerk Virginia A. Mefford

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** this 19th day of November 2012.

/S/ ROBERT A IRVIN  
MAYOR ROBERT A IRVIN

Signed November 20, 2012

ATTEST:

/s/ Virginia A Mefford  
City Clerk Virginia A. Mefford