

MINUTES OF THE HARMON FIELD BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
Tuesday, January 3, 2023

Chairman Nelon called the Harmon Field Board of Supervisors meeting to order at 5:30 PM at the Tryon Town Hall, McCown Room.

Board Members Present: Chairman Stephen Nelon; Rick Covil; and Warren Watson

Board Members Absent: Secretary-Treasurer Miguel Santibanez

Staff Present: Travis Aldred, Harmon Field Superintendent; and Meg Rogers, Town Secretary/Cashier

Approve Minutes from December meeting

The Minutes from the Harmon Field Board's December 6, 2022 regular meeting were reviewed. Covil made a motion to approve the Minutes from the regular meeting on December 6, 2022 as presented. Watson seconded the motion. Motion was approved by a vote of 3 to 0.

Approve Financial Report for December 2022

The December 2022 Harmon Field financial report was presented by Aldred. According to the report, Harmon Field had received \$185,740.25 (74.00 %) of its annual budgeted revenues for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 and had spent \$168,991.88 (67.33%) of annual budgeted expenditures for FY 2022-2023 leaving a fund balance of \$195,091.10 as of December 31, 2022.

Aldred reported that most expenses were in line except for a few line items, including contracted services, some of which would be paid from insurance settlement funds. Aldred provided a handout showing expenditures to date for the maintenance building repairs totaling \$50,669.52. Insurance settlement funds received totaled \$108,584.07. Remaining balance of insurance settlement funds was \$57,914.55. Remaining work to be done included purchase and installation of new water heater, new HVAC, new bathroom fixtures, inspection and reconnection of electrical power. Chairman Nelon stated he would check on the permitting that was to be done by the electrical contractor. It was requested that the Town Clerk attend the February meeting to answer questions regarding the Harmon Field maintenance shed restoration project accounting.

Blue Ridge Hunter Jumper Association (BRHJA) Report

Discussion postponed until January 3, 2023 work session following the regular meeting.

Rental Updates

Aldred distributed a handout detailing the concession stand electrical charges still owed by the Harmon Field Concession Stand operator. Concession Stand Tenant had paid \$500 rent January 3, 2023. Aldred stated that the tenant would still owe \$1,800 in power bills. Chairman Nelon stated that the concession stand electricity bill should be

put in the concession stand tenant's name as soon as possible. Aldred reported that the tenant had said that Duke Energy would not permit the tenant to set up an account.

Aldred had reviewed the Concession Stand least contract and understood it to mean that no food trucks were allowed on Harmon Field property if not a designated festival. This did not include food trucks on adjoining property owned by Tryon Arts & Crafts School. Concerns were expressed about a publicized auction prize being offered at a fund-raising event at Tryon International Equestrian Center to benefit Polk County Schools that stated that the auction item included a party at Harmon Field with for up to 100 children to include free ice cream provided by an ice cream food truck. Covil stated he would pay the power charge for this food truck since the auction would benefit the Polk County Schools.

Park Superintendent's Report

Park Superintendent Aldred presented his report.

- Harmon Field bathrooms- One of the bathroom facilities was locked up because of broken pipes and frozen urinals.
- Dog Park Water – a water spigot was installed at the Harmon Field dog park, but after two days was frozen and broke. The concrete at the fountain would have to be removed to properly install a frost-free hydrant at the water tap location. Watson stated he had a hydrant unit he would donate to Harmon Field.
- Dog Park Lights – the dog park users group had offered to pay for lights on the dog park area if they could have a way to control the lights. Payment for 4 to 5 months in advance was suggested. Harmon Field would have to provide a key to the meter box for that field for the group to access the controls to turn the lights on and off. Cost was estimated at approximately \$100 per month. Aldred stated that baseball field B and the dog park were on the same electricity meter. Covil was concerned about too many copies of the control box key out with the public. Chairman Nelson hoped to get electricity controlled by smart phone to address this security issue. The Board asked Aldred to relay a request to the dog park users group to come to a future Board meeting to discuss their request.
- Pickle Ball – Aldred distributed photos of the tennis court surface condition under the FlexCourt® surface on the faded court. Aldred reported lots of humps and cracks on the edges but he did not believe there would be major humps or cracks in the center of the court. Aldred stated that two pickle ball courts would fit into the space of the one tennis court without encroaching on the adjacent tennis court but trying to put four pickle ball courts in that space would encroach on the adjacent tennis court. Aldred estimated the cost of the fixtures, materials and supplies at \$400 and cost for staff to move the practice backboard at \$300. Total cost to convert the single tennis court into two pickle ball courts was estimated at \$1,000. Chairman Nelson reported that several people had approached him and Tryon Town Manager Ollis to request adding pickle ball courts at Harmon Field and Mountain View Racket Club was interested in helping Harmon Field offer pickle

ball. Watson asked if the new pickle ball courts could generate revenue through reservation fees. Covil asked Aldred to save the FlexCourt® tiles that were removed to use in the future. Aldred suggested the tiles could be sold to the public as floor mats for garages, etc. Watson made a motion to approve expending up to \$1000 to install two pickle ball courts on one of the existing tennis courts at Harmon Field as discussed. Covil seconded the motion. Motion was approved by a vote of 3 to 0.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, February 7, 2023, 5:30 pm at Tryon Town Hall, McCown Council Meeting Room.

Adjourn

Chairman Nelon adjourned the meeting at 6:20 PM.

Submitted By:

Approved:

Meg Rogers

**Meg Rogers, staff support
substituting for Miguel Santibanez,
Secretary-Treasurer**

Stephen Nelon
**Stephen Nelon
Chairman**