



CITY OF GAHANNA

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

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TO: Gahanna City Council  
Thomas R. Kneeland, Mayor

FROM: Troy Euton, Director, Department of Parks & Recreation

DATE: January 21, 2016

**RE: Parks & Recreation - Report to Council for Monday, January 25, 2016**

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**ACTION ITEMS:**

**ITEM # 1 – LIFETIME FITNESS CONTRACT**

We are requesting an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Life Time Fitness, Inc. 2902 Corporate Place, Chanhassen, MN 55317, for the rights and privileges of Gahanna Swim Pool Membership as an additional amenity to Life Time Fitness Center Members in exchange for \$30,000. We are also requesting a waiver and emergency.

Each year, Life Time Fitness provides \$30,000 for the opportunity for their members to have discounted memberships to the Gahanna Swimming Pool.

**Information regarding Number of Lifetime Members and their number of visits:**

- Annually, between 750 and 1,000 individuals purchase the discounted Life Time Aquatics Membership that provides access to the Gahanna Swimming Pool.
- These members visit the Gahanna Swimming Pool approximately 2,200 each year
- In 2014, a total of \$33,942 was collected through the Life Time Contract fees and the discount membership charges.
  - *If daily admissions were collected instead of having this contract in place, 2,200 visits would total an estimated \$19,800 in gate fees. However, many of the members would not visit the Gahanna Aquatics Facilities without this contract in place. The direct revenues generated through the Life Time Contract in 2014 were at least \$14,000 greater than the potential revenue generated if these individuals were instead charged daily gate fees.*

**Process Details/Notes:**

Each household is required to complete a membership application.

Each household pays \$5 per person, capped at \$15 per Life Time household (all must be on same membership)

Life Time staff completes the form based upon our agreed upon rules (same house, ages, same Life Time membership) and signs off on it. The Household then can submit the hardcopy form to the City of Gahanna (at City Hall or at the Pools).

The members can also upgrade to access both pools for the following amounts:

<b>2016 Membership Upgrade Rates for Life Time Members—Access to HRP &amp; GSP</b>	Gahanna Resident Rate	Standard (Non-Resident) Rate
<b>Single</b> ( <i>ages 12+</i> )	\$50	\$60
<b>Couple</b> ( <i>2 people, same household</i> )	\$75	\$85
<b>Family</b> ( <i>3+ people, same household</i> )	\$100	\$110
<b>Senior</b> ( <i>ages 55+</i> )	\$40	\$50

**ITEM #2 – RESOLUTION – COTF GRANT**

We are requesting a Resolution for permission to apply for a Clean Ohio Trail Fund (COTF) grant for Big Walnut Trail, Section 4, and authorization for the Mayor to sign documents relating to the application and award of the grant.

For 2016 grant awards have been increased from \$500,000 to \$850,000, and the deadline extended by two months to April 1, 2016. We anticipate this section costing over \$1 million. Better estimates will be developed as the project planning moves forward.

We will simultaneously begin acquisition, planning and design for this section once a firm is selected. There is a lot of planning and easement work to be done for this section. We had originally planned not to apply for the grant this year because of it. However, with the temporary, one year only, increase in the award amount we feel a need to try and capitalize on it.

**ITEM #3 – RESOLUTION – RTP GRANT**

We are requesting a Resolution for permission to apply for a Recreational Trail Program (RTP) grant for a loop trail at McCutcheon Road Park or to add to the BWT section 4 project, and authorization for the Mayor to sign documents relating to the application and award of the grant. The grant deadline is April 1<sup>st</sup>.

RTP grants will award up to \$150,000 for trail improvements, including loop trails in parks, something COTF typically doesn't fund.

We will begin the public planning process for this McCutcheon Road park development later this winter. We anticipate using several different funding mechanisms to fund this park, in phases over time if need be. We have already requested funding from the state capital budget for this project and anticipate applying for a Natureworks grant as well.

We are evaluating the strength of this project compared to BWT 4 at this time. If we feel it will not be funded for the loop trail, we may elect to add to the section 4 project request instead of McCutcheon Road Park

#### **ITEM #4 – RESOLUTION - NATUREWORKS GRANT**

We are requesting a Resolution for permission to apply for a Natureworks grant for a restroom structure and playground at McCutcheon Road Park, and authorization for the Mayor to sign documents relating to the application and award of the grant. The grant deadline is May 1<sup>st</sup>. Award amounts have been in the \$100,000 to \$200,000 range for the past few years, depending on funding available in Franklin County.

We will begin the public planning process for this park development later this winter. We anticipate using several different funding mechanisms to fund this park, in phases over time if need be. We have already requested funding from the state capital budget for this project.

#### **ITEM #5 – ORDINANCE - GRANT WRITER**

We are requesting an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract for grant writer services with Kris Pohlman, freelance consultant, for an amount not to exceed \$8,000 to make application for a Clean Ohio Trail Fund grant, Recreational Trail Program grant and a Natureworks grant for trail and/or park improvements as outlined above.

Funding for this request will be covered in existing budgets from Parks Contract Services (101.431.5249).

I'm unfortunately requesting a waiver and emergency for this ordinance. I originally had not planned to apply for COTF and RTP until our section 4 plan was more developed. However, after receiving a call from the grant administrator strongly encouraging us to apply coupled with the increased award amounts and extended deadline (thus an extended completion deadline as well), I feel I would be remiss not to bring this forward. The timeline would require a near immediate start on these grants to meet the deadlines.

#### **COUNCIL UPDATES**

**Nothing at this time**

#### **UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:**

##### **Camp Registration Day**

Saturday, February 27, 2016

9a – 12p

City Hall

Register for Camp and receive the early bird pricing.

##### **New Gateway**

Look for your new Gateway to be delivered around February 8, 2016. The Gateway is also available at City Hall, the Senior Center, the Herb Center and the Gahanna Library.