

## **General Government Committee**

January 14, 2014

### **Summary and Motions**

Chair Kay called the meeting to order at 11:05am. All Committee members were present except Lawless and Lane.

#### **1. Approval of Summary**

Motion by Beard approve the summary. Seconded by Myers. Motion passed without dissent.

#### **2. Move Human Resources**

Clarke stated that at the last meeting he suggested Human Resources should be its own department. He stated that it was too important to be part of Law or any other Department.

Beard stated that most large organizations have stand alone human resources functions.

Maxwell discussed the 3 sections of Human Resources; Talent Management, Benefits and Employee & Labor Relations. He was asked to provide a written summary of the 3 sections and their responsibilities.

Ford voiced his support for promoting efficiency. He also reminded his colleagues that Council has the final approval over any reorganization plan.

In response to a question from Kay, Hamilton stated that she can provide an estimate of costs and benefits of a new structure for human resources.

#### **3. Barrier Free Parks**

Gorton introduced the topic of barrier free parks.

Cooperrider provided a summary of what Parks & Recreation is doing to promote and develop barrier free parks. He provided a history of the parks parity initiative started in 2006.

Cooperrider stated that Cardinal Run, Southland and Mary Todd were identified in 2011 as potential barrier free parks.

Cooperrider stated that the division has installed approximately 9,000 yards of safety surface in the last five years. He also stated that the FY 14 Budget still has \$ 60,000 for barrier free park improvements in 2014. He stated that new playground designs have been recommended for Veterans Park and Jacobson Park in 2015 and Shill to, Woodland and Cardinal Valley in FY 2016.

In response to a question from Scutchfield, Cooperrider stated that the Division has not been very successful in obtaining external funds through grants for barrier free parka installations.

In response to a question from Kay, Cooperrider stated that most of the parks data is antidotal. He stated that the Division had used remote photography to determine usage in a few parks for a short period of time.

Gorton discussed the projects report that is utilized by Water Quality,. She encourage Parks to develop and utilize similar tools to track projects. She was concerned that Parks still had funds in FY 14 to create barrier free parks but it hasn't been started yet.

#### **4. Items Referred**

Kay discussed the items referred list. He stated that the "Relationship with BGADD" should be heard after the State Auditor has released his audit.

Kay stated that "Moving Human Resources" and "Parks Enterprise Programming" should be on the February agenda. He also stated "Sponsoring Parks", "Impact of Vacant Parks Positions", "Building Security" and "Standardized Cell Phone Procurement" could be part of the March agenda.

Motion by Myers to adjourn. Seconded by Gorton. Meeting was adjourned at 12:15 PM.