



The City of Liberty
City Council
Special Called Meeting
~ Agenda ~

1829 Sam Houston
Liberty, TX 77575
www.cityofliberty.org

Dianne Tidwell
City Secretary
(936) 336-3684

Tuesday, May 26, 2020

6:00 PM

City Hall - Liberty Center

The City Council of Liberty, Texas reserves the right to meet in closed session on any agenda item should the need arise and if applicable pursuant to authorization by Title 5, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Present	Absent	Late	Arrived
Mayor Carl Pickett	☐	☐	☐	
Mayor ProTem Diane Driggers	☐	☐	☐	
Council Member Dennis Beasley	☐	☐	☐	
Council Member Libby Simonson	☐	☐	☐	
Council Member David Arnold	☐	☐	☐	
Council Member Chipper Smith	☐	☐	☐	
Council Member Neal Thornton	☐	☐	☐	

II. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GUESTS AND VISITORS / PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment is reserved for members of the public who would like to address the City Council regarding agenda and non-agenda items. Please be aware that, under Texas Law, the Council may not deliberate or take any action during Citizen's comments for items not on the agenda. In some situations, City Staff may be able to respond to the public comment with a factual statement or clarification. The City Council may have the item placed on a future agenda for action or refer the item to Management and Staff for study or conclusion.

III. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Executive Session

Tx. Gov. Code §551.072 - Deliberation Regarding Real Property.

- To deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property.

B. Reconvene into Regular Session

C. Regular Session

1. Work Session (ID # 4787)

City Council will convene a Work Session for discussion of the Liberty Municipal Golf Course.

- PP-LIBERTY MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE-May 2020 (PPTX)
- GC-Att #1-National Golf Foundation (PDF)

- GC-Att #2 - 9-Hole & Short Courses (PDF)
- GC-Att #3 - Golf Property Analysts (PDF)
- GC-Att #4 - Aren't Enough Golfers (PDF)
- GC-Att #5 - Memorial Park Golf Course Reopens (PDF)

2. Resolution (ID # 4782)

Consider a Resolution authorizing the purchase of equipment for the Liberty Municipal Golf Course.

3. Resolution (ID # 4783)

First Reading of a Resolution ratifying a Liberty Community Development Corporation FY20 Budget Amendment for \$24,850.

4. Resolution (ID # 4784)

Consider and take action of Second and Final Reading, of a Resolution ratifying a Liberty Community Development Corporation FY20 Budget Amendment for \$24,850.

5. Ordinance (ID # 4785)

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS AMENDING THE CITY'S FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020 BUDGET; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND DISPENSING WITH THE REQUIREMENT OF SECTION 3.10 OF THE HOME RULE CHARTER THAT ALL ORDINANCES BE READ ON TWO SEPARATE DAYS.

6. Resolution (ID # 4781)

Consider a Resolution cancelling the City's Annual July 3rd Fireworks Display, due to COVID-19.

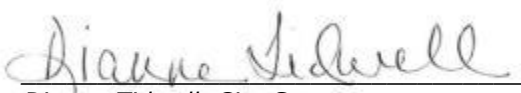
7. Resolution (ID # 4786)

Consider a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute documents related to the Cares Act Coronavirus Relief Fund.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion To: Adjourn

I certify that the attached Notice of Meeting was posted on the bulletin board and in the Message Centers located on the east and west sides of the City Hall Administration Building, located at 1829 Sam Houston on the 22nd day of May, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. This notice will remain so posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said meeting in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.


Dianne Tidwell, City Secretary

NOTICE

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Liberty will provide reasonable accommodation for persons attending and/or participating in this Council Meeting. To better serve you, requests must be made at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Contact the City at (936) 336-3684 or by Fax at (936) 336-9846. The building is wheelchair accessible, with parking available, on the west side of the building.

I certify that the attached Notice and Agenda of items to be considered by the City Council was removed by me from the bulletin board at the City Hall on the _____ day of _____, 2020.



The City of Liberty

City Council
1829 Sam Houston
Liberty, TX 77575

3.C.1

Meeting: 05/26/20 06:00 PM

Department: Administration
Category: Golf Course

WORK SESSION (ID # 4787)

DOC ID: 4787

Subject: Liberty Municipal Golf Course

Background: City Staff will make a presentation on the Liberty Municipal Golf Course, and hold discussion on the future course of action for the Course.

LIBERTY MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

1

MAY 26, 2020

LIBERTY MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

Ø BACKGROUND

- City purchased golf course in June 2018
- City committed to minimum 5-year operation
- Purchase price (Land, Buildings & Equipment) \$ 396,115
- June 2018- March 2020 Revenue \$ 203,845
- June 2018- March 2020 LCDC Transfers \$1,079,647
- March 2020 Cambridge Fund Transfer \$ 69,000
- June 2018- March 2020 Expenditures \$1,006,726
 - Operating \$809,543
 - Capital \$197,183

LIBERTY MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

Ø PROJECTED REVENUES/EXPENDITURES (W/O RENOVATIONS)

- | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| • April 2020 - June 2023 Revenue | \$ 450,000 | |
| • April 2020 - June 2023 LCDC Transfers | \$1,810,000 | |
| • April 2020 - June 2023 Expenditures | | \$2,260,000 |

LIBERTY MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

Ø FY 2020 LCDC Budget

Ø Transfer to Golf Course	\$ 404,000	40%
Ø Payment Street Debt	\$ 235,700	23%
Ø Transfer to General Fund	\$ 171,000	17%
Ø Operations	\$ 163,300	16%
Ø Payment on Fire Truck	\$ 35,800	4%
Ø Total	\$1,010,000	

Ø FY 2020 Golf Course Budget

Ø Revenue	\$ 97,000	19%
Ø Transfer From LCDC	\$ 404,000	81%
Ø Total	\$ 501,000	

LIBERTY MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

Ø DISCUSSION ITEMS

Ø Other City Amenities

Ø Library

Ø FY 2019-2020 Budget	\$460,490
Ø FY 2019-2020 Revenue	\$ 14,000
Ø Library Cards	
Ø Resident	3,349 (40%)
Ø Non-Resident	5,099 (60%)

Ø Parks

Ø FY 2019-2020 Budget	\$375,000
Ø FY 2019-2020 Revenue	\$ 15,000

Ø Golf Course

Ø FY 2019-2020 Budget	\$501,000
Ø FY 2019-2020 Revenue	\$ 97,000

Ø Future Capital Expenditures

Ø Library

Ø Animal Shelter

LIBERTY MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

Ø DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Ø Future of Nine Hole Courses (See Attachments)
- Ø Does City Retain or Sale Golf Course
 - Ø Pros
 - Ø Provides Another Amenity
 - Ø Used to Attract New Residents
 - Ø Used by High School Golf Teams
 - Ø Used for General Recreation (walking/jogging when course closed)
 - Ø Used by Residents & Non-Residents
 - Ø Similar to Other Community Services (Library & Parks)
 - Ø Cons
 - Ø Cost to Operate
 - Ø Cost to Renovate
 - Ø Opportunity Cost (the value of any alternate use of a resource)

LIBERTY MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

Ø DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Ø If Sold, Sell
 - Ø Immediately
 - Ø June 2023
- Ø If Retained, What Are Expectations in Regards to:
 - Ø Acceptable Deficit
 - Ø Funding Source – LCDC, General Fund
 - Ø Management – City/Private
 - Ø Staffing – City/Private
 - Ø Course Improvements
 - Ø Equipment Purchases
 - Ø Facility Improvements

LIBERTY MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

8

Ø DISCUSSION ITEMS

Ø Master Plan

Ø Course Improvements

- Ø Drainage Improvements
- Ø Course Regrading/Re-routing
- Ø Tee & Green Reshaping
- Ø Grassing
- Ø Cart Paths

Ø Additional Amenities

- Ø Driving Range & Putting Green
- Ø Short Course
- Ø Bunkers

Ø Non-golf renovations (not included in renovation budget)

- Ø On Course Restroom (Priority)
- Ø Pro Shop Expansion
- Ø Maintenance Facility & Cart storage Facility
- Ø Wedding Venue/Fishing Lake

LIBERTY MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

Ø MASTER PLAN IMPROVEMENTS

- Ø Nine Holes
- Ø Greens Complexes
- Ø Cart Paths
- Ø Tee Complexes
- Ø Roughs
- Ø Bunkers
- Ø Irrigation
- Ø Practice Facilities
- Ø Short Course & Lighting
- Ø Cost Estimate - \$4,482,500

LIBERTY MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

Ø MASTER PLAN SCHEDULE

- Ø Design 5 months
- Ø Construction 14 Months

Ø COURSE CLOSED DURING RENOVATIONS

LIBERTY MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

Ø MASTER PLAN PROJECT PRO FORMA

Ø Revenue/Expenditure/Difference – with Short Course & Lighting

Ø Year 1	\$541,250	\$676,375	-\$135,125
Ø Year 2	\$590,375	\$712,463	-\$122,088
Ø Year 3	\$664,063	\$753,762	-\$ 89,699
Ø Year 4	\$737,750	\$796,578	-\$ 58,828
Ø Year 5	\$737,750	\$809,423	-\$ 71,673

Ø Revenue/Expenditure/Difference – without Short Course & Lighting

Ø Year 1	\$446,250	\$629,375	-\$183,125
Ø Year 2	\$490,875	\$661,988	-\$171,113
Ø Year 3	\$557,813	\$698,625	-\$140,812
Ø Year 4	\$624,750	\$736,716	-\$111,966
Ø Year 5	\$624,750	\$754,561	-\$129,811

LIBERTY MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

Ø PROJECT PRO FORMA FOR CONCEPT I

Ø Assumptions

- Ø Average Daily Round to Cost \$22.50
- Ø Annual Rounds Start at 10,000 Year 1 and Cap at 14,000
- Ø Projected Revenues are 18 Hole Rounds
- Ø Projects 75% of Players Rent Carts to Play, 25% Walkers
- Ø Projects 20% of Players Purchase Merchandise
- Ø Projects Concession Sales Will Equal 50% of Green Fees
- Ø Projects an Average of Over \$4,000 per Month in Range and Short Course Fees
- Ø Course Maintenance/Landscaping Budgeted at \$350,000 Year 1, Increases 5% Annually Years 2-4 Until Stabilized
- Ø Merchandise COGS anticipated to 35% of Sales
- Ø F&B Concession COGS Anticipated to be 40% of Sales
- Ø Labor (Excluding Concessions) – 6 Full Time and 5 Part Time

LIBERTY MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

Ø NON-GOLF RENOVATIONS (NOT INCLUDED IN RENNOVATION BUDGET)

Ø On Course Restroom (Priority)	\$ 40,000 - \$ 60,000
Ø Pro Shop Expansion	\$150,000 - \$200,000
Ø Maintenance Facility	\$350,000 - \$500,000
Ø Cart Storage Facility	\$150,000 - \$200,000
Ø Wedding Venue/Fishing Lake	\$200,000 - \$300,000

LIBERTY MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

Ø DECISIONS

Ø Sell or Retain

Ø Sell

- Ø Immediately
- Ø End of 5-yr Commitment Period

Ø Retain

- Ø What is an Acceptable Deficit
 - Ø Retain with No Improvements
 - Ø Retain with Improvements
 - Ø Identify Improvements Desired
 - Ø Develop Budget
 - Ø Prepare Pro Forma Based on Improvements/Budget
- Ø Proceed with Design

QUESTIONS ?

NATIONAL GOLF FOUNDATION RELEASES 2019 GOLF INDUSTRY REPORT

YOU ARE HERE:

Home (<http://wearegolf.org/>) > Industry News (<http://wearegolf.org/blog/industry-news/>) > National Golf Foundation Releases 2019 Golf Industry Report



NATIONAL GOLF FOUNDATION RELEASES 2019 GOLF INDUSTRY REPORT

Posted: April 17, 2019 (<http://wearegolf.org/industry-news/national-golf-foundation-releases-2019-golf-industry-report/>) By: WAG (<http://wearegolf.org/author/wag/>) Category: Industry News (<http://wearegolf.org/blog/industry-news/>)

Jupiter, FL – The National Golf Foundation (NGF), the only trade organization that works with every sector within the golf industry, has released its 2019 Golf Industry Report, a comprehensive state-of-the-industry overview.

The Golf Industry Report (GIR) compiles many of the game's key data points in a single publication and is intended to provide the most holistic view of the business of golf and the health of the game within the U.S. to stakeholders and the media. The GIR includes the latest NGF data on golf participation, engagement, rounds-played, latent demand, golf course supply and development, retail supply, golf equipment sales, and golf's reach.

Golf's participation base remains stable, with an estimated 24.2 million people (ages 6+) who played golf on a course in 2018 – a slight increase from 23.8 million a year earlier. Almost as many people play off-course forms of the game, with 23 million hitting golf balls with clubs at golf-entertainment facilities

like Topgolf and Drive Shack, indoor simulators and driving ranges. With 9.3 million people exclusively playing golf off-course, the game's overall participant pool has increased 4% to 33.5 million.

There were 434 million rounds of golf played in 2018, a 4.8% year-over-year decline attributable in part to the third-wettest year on record nationally dating back to 1895 (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association).

Despite the negative weather impact on the nation's top outdoor, pay-to-play participation sport, there are 14.7 million people who didn't play golf last year but say they are "very interested" in playing golf on a course. This untapped demand helped contribute to the 2.6 million beginners who picked up the game in 2018.

The total U.S. golf course supply declined by 1.2%, with the opening of 12.5 new 18-hole equivalent golf courses and 198.5 course closures. Closures have outweighed new openings nationwide since 2006, an ongoing correction of supply and demand within the market that followed an unsustainable 20-year building boom during which more than 4,000 courses opened, boosting the U.S. supply by 44%. The U.S. remains the best-supplied golf market in the world with 14,613 facilities and 16,693 courses – more than 75% of which are open to all players, the highest public-to-private ratio in history.

Other 2018 highlights from the Golf Industry Report:

- Golf's total reach of about 107 million people in the U.S. is comprised of 33.5M total golf participants plus approximately 74M who watched and/or read about golf, but didn't play on or off course. This represents more than one-third of the U.S. population (age 6+) and is a 10% increase from 2017.

- Juniors (6-17) and young adults (18-34) comprise approximately 35% of all on-course golfers, with 2.5 million junior participants and 6.1 million young adults.
- There are 5.7 million women who played golf on a course in 2018. Women account for 23% of the on-course golfer base and 44% of off-course only play.
 - Newcomers to golf are increasingly diverse: 31% are female, 26% are non-Caucasian and 62% are under the age of 35.
 - The number of golfers age 65-and-over increased almost 17% to 4.2 million in 2018. This number should continue to increase as the balance of Baby Boomers cross this milestone.
 - There are more than 20 million committed golfers who account for approximately 95% of all rounds-played and spending.
- Golfers played an average of 17.9 rounds in 2018.
 - The average price paid for an 18-hole round at public golf facilities is \$35.

For further information and context on the 2019 Golf Industry Report, please visit *The Q*:

(<https://www.thengfq.com/2019/04/ngf-releases-2019-golf-industry-report/>
(<https://www.thengfq.com/2019/04/ngf-releases-2019-golf-industry-report/>)).

NGF members can download a copy of the full report at the organization's new website:

<https://www.ngf.org/report/golf-industry-report/> (<https://www.ngf.org/report/golf-industry-report/>)

About the National Golf Foundation

The National Golf Foundation, founded in 1936, is driven by its mission to foster the growth and vitality of the game and business of golf. The NGF holds a unique position as the most trusted and preeminent provider of market research, marketing databases, business insights and programs that support every segment of the industry. For more information, please visit [ngf.org](http://www.ngf.org) (<http://www.ngf.org/>).

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TAGS : Golf Industry Report (<http://wearegolf.org/tag/golf-industry-report/>)

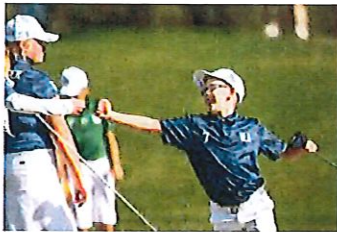
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(<https://www.linksmagazine.com/>)

Short and Sweet: 9-Hole, Par 3, and Short Courses are the Future

By Adam Schupak



The Cradle, Pinehurst Resort

Nine-holers, Par-3s, and other abbreviated courses are all the rage—and could be the secret to reviving golf

Former U.S. Open champion Geoff Ogilvy missed the cut at the 2009 British Open, but that didn't prevent him from making lasting memories that week. Each day, after practice and following his first two rounds at the Ailsa Course at Turnberry Resort, he grabbed a putter, a sand wedge, and a pint of beer and did several laps around the Wee Links, an 18-hole pitch-and-putt course set alongside the glorious Ayrshire coastline that is designed to play like a mini-Ailsa.

Attachment: GC-Att #2 - 9-Hole & Short Courses (4787 : Municipal Golf Course)

"Does it get any better than that?" Ogilvy asks.

Short courses and nine-hole courses have long served as the sandlots of golf while also being regarded as the game's red-headed stepchild. Now, suddenly, they are all the rage.

Among the alternative-length courses to open at famous resort destinations in the last year are The Cradle at Pinehurst and The Roundabout at Streamsong, with The Sandbox at Sand Valley debuting May 1. And the architects lending their imagination to shaping these small wonders are the crème de la crème of the profession. Even Tiger Woods and Jordan Spieth have gotten into the act helping to elevate the status of the short course.

What's driving this mini-revolution? Less time consuming, less difficult, less expensive, less use of water and pesticides, and more family-friendly for golfers of all skill levels, short courses check all the boxes for what is required for golf to grow in this day and age.

"For me, it's so obvious. I don't understand why they aren't everywhere," says Ogilvy, who renovated The Little Nine at Shady Oaks in Ft. Worth, Texas, where Ben Hogan used to dig it out of the dirt.

Short courses have been around almost as long as the game itself. Ogilvy points to North Berwick, in East Lothian, Scotland—the 13th oldest club in the world—and its neighboring children's course, a nine-hole par-3 layout adjacent to the 15th and 16th holes on the West Links, as a model for the atmosphere, size, and scale of what is needed (to borrow a popular phrase) to make golf great again. Ogilvy loves the sign that greets golfers: "Adults can play only when accompanied by a child."

"The Scots have had it worked out for 150 years," Ogilvy says. "The rest of us? We've just found a way to mess it up."

Somewhere along the way, it became accepted as one of golf's Ten Commandments that the game consisted of bashing driver over a course of 18 holes. Playing nine developed a stigma, as if it didn't count, and in a way it didn't. A nine-hole handicap for local use only wasn't permitted until 1960: A golfer could post a nine-hole score, but had to wait until another nine hole score was posted to be merged for an 18-hole score, and those nine-hole scores had to be consecutive.

Against that framework, golf's small wonders have continued to provide an affordable entry point to the game and often as much charm as challenge. According to the National Golf Foundation, there are more than 4,000 nine-hole golf courses across the country, and more than 8,000 worldwide.

It wasn't until 1998 that a nine-hole handicap index finally was acknowledged by the USGA. Another key moment in legitimizing the short course occurred in 2008 when Augusta National Golf Club gave nine-hole play the ultimate promotion by televising the Masters Par 3 Contest.



Bandon Preserve © L.C. Lambrecht

Many industry observers point to Bandon Preserve—the 13-hole course designed in 2012 by Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw that begins high above a southern Oregon sand dune and rolls down toward the Pacific Ocean—as the one that made short courses cool again. Before Bandon Dunes, developer Mike Keiser's first course was The Dunes Club, a private nine-hole par-3 course that opened in New Buffalo, Mich., in 1990. Keiser originally purchased the land to block a condominium development near his summer home on the banks of Lake Michigan, but eventually he bought another adjacent plot and hired Dick Nugent to lay out the holes. There are no tee markers at this walking-only course, and the local rule is that the winner of the previous hole gets to choose where to tee off on the next one.

Bandon Preserve was conceived as a breather for the golfer walking 36 holes day after day at the resort's four standout 18-hole layouts, while giving another option to the golfer who didn't want to sit in his room all afternoon, either. Keiser says his inspiration for the Preserve was The Horse Course, a course with no tees, just expanded fairways and 10 greens, at the Prairie Club in Nebraska. Designed by Gil Hanse with Jim Wagner and Geoff Shackelford, the trio took the concept of

basketball's game of "horse," which allows the winner of each hole to choose the stance, lie, shot, and green for the next hole.

"We just thought, 'How much fun would that be to be able to build a little course where the opportunity existed for any number of different shots to be played,'" Hanse says.

The popularity of Bandon Preserve, which is about as much fun as can be had without a wood in the bag, led to Keiser building the 17-hole Sandbox at Sand Valley, and he has announced plans for a short course at Cabot Links in Canada.

Short courses address the growing question of time and the shift in priorities over how to spend it. Bass Pro Shops founder Johnny Morris isn't an avid golfer, but he recognizes how golf can be a means to connect people to nature and bring families together. The most popular family activity at his sprawling Big Cedar Lodge Resort set in the Ozark Mountains is Putt-Putt golf. (Of course, there is a hole where you putt through the mouth of a bass rather than a clown.) The resort's first course, the Jack Nicklaus-designed Top of the Rock, is a splashy par-3 layout that holds the honor of being the first nine-hole, par 3 to host a PGA Tour tournament as the home of the PGA Tour Champions Legends of Golf. In 2017, Gary Player designed a second short course at Big Cedar Lodge, the 13-hole Mountain Top layout, a walking-only course without forced carries that challenges seasoned players while also being fun and welcoming for new golfers. Morris expects it will do as many rounds as Top of the Rock, which is cart-path-only.



Top of the Rock, Big Cedar Lodge

"If we can have a course that is the next step above putt-putt, then the whole family can come and play," Morris says.

And Morris isn't done. As part of his deal to build an 18-hole layout on property, Tiger Woods also will design a short course at Big Cedar Lodge Resort, just as he has built a 10-hole, 792-yard, par-30 course named The Playgrounds at Bluejack National Golf Club in Montgomery, Texas, and the 12-hole Oasis Short Course at Diamante in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico.

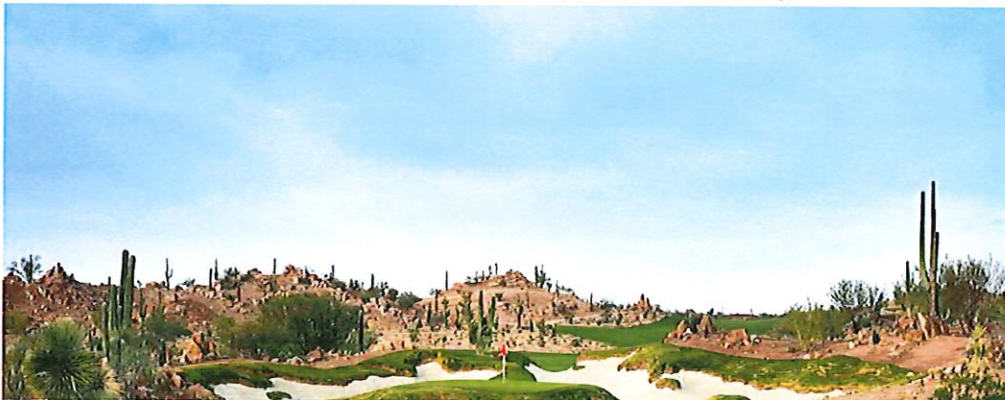
This is full circle for Tiger, whose first home track was Heartwell Golf Course, a par-3 layout in Long Beach, Calif., where at age eight he made his first hole-in-one, ran to the green, and celebrated before realizing he'd left his bag on the tee. Woods has made the short course a staple of his course-design philosophy, announcing in March 2017 that he is building a short course at Jack's Bay, a private development in The Bahamas. Likewise, Jordan Spieth collaborated with architect Roy Bechtol on the Spieth Lower 40, a six-hole par-3 course built on 4½ acres between the members' range and the first hole at the University of Texas Golf Club.

"Not to take anything away from the Mike Keisers of the world, but when Jordan Spieth and Tiger Woods are designing short courses and rubber-stamping them, that means a lot," says Shackelford.

If fun is the operative word for these short courses, Bob Parsons, the founder of equipment-maker PXG and internet domain registrar GoDaddy, took a contrarian's approach, instructing architects Jackson-Kahn Design to build the world's hardest par-3 course at his Scottsdale National Golf Club.

"They're all completely unfair," Parsons says of the holes at The Bad Little Nine. "You would think, okay, well, who's going to want to play that? The answer to that is everybody."

The fun—or in this case torture—ratchets up on Challenge Day. Every Friday, Parsons has a standing \$1,000 offer to anyone who can break par when the course is all tricked out. Ogilvy tried once and walked off the first hole after his 10th stroke.





The Bad Little Nine at Scottsdale National

Will this little trend have legs? *Golf Digest* architectural editor Ron Whitten views short courses as loss leaders that don't work as stand-alone businesses. He speaks from experience. In 1999, Whitten built Safari Golf, a nine-hole, lit pitch-n-putt where the longest hole was 90 yards, in Topeka, Kan., next to an existing driving range and miniature golf operation. It lasted just three years. Whitten notes that all the reasons short courses should thrive ignores the elephant in the room.

"It still requires daily maintenance, a superintendent, and a crew," Whitten explains. "That's an enormous expense for any golf operation, and cost prohibitive if you're just doing a short course."

Rob Collins of King-Collins Design & Golf Construction is the architect and owner-operator of Sweetens Cove Golf Club, a quirky, strategic, nine-hole course that officially opened in April 2015 in South Pittsburg, Tenn., population 3,000. Anthony Pioppi, author of *The Finest Nines*, tabbed Sweetens Cove "without a doubt, the finest 9-hole golf course built in the modern era of golf course architecture (post-1959)." Collins is convinced that nine-hole golf and short courses will continue to gain in popularity. He's put his money where his mouth is and says Sweetens Cove—with 10 million people within a two-hour radius—will succeed because of its strong regional appeal.

"Demographics and the proximity to large population centers make the numbers work," he says. "If you have those key elements on your side, there's no question that nine holes can work as a standalone business."

And what of Collins's next design project, set to break ground this spring?

"It's another nine-hole course," he says.





Sweetens Cove

The Top 10 Par-3 Courses

1: Bandon Preserve at Bandon Resort – Bill Coore & Ben Crenshaw (2012)

Proof that great things come in small packages. With some of the best greens—and vistas—on property.

2: Augusta National Par-3 Course at Augusta National Golf Club – George Cobb (1958) As sure as the azaleas bloom each spring, this little gem hosts the annual Masters Par-3 Contest.

3: Top of the Rock at Big Cedar Resort & Lodge – Jack Nicklaus (2014) Gary Player ranks it ahead of Augusta's par-3 course. We won't go that far, but spectacular in its own right.

4: The Short Course at Pine Valley Golf Club – Ernie Ransome & Tom Fazio (1992) Offers miniaturized versions of some of the best shots on America's top-ranked golf course.

5: The Cliffs Course at The Olympic Club – Jay Morrish & Tom Weiskopf (1994) The best layout at Olympic? Good luck not being distracted by the beauty of the Pacific Ocean—or the hang gliders.

6: Threetops at Treetops Resort – Rick Smith (1992) For a number of years, Threetops hosted the ESPN Par 3 Shootout. In 2001, Lee Trevino aced No. 7 for \$1 million.

7: The Hickory Course at Hamilton Farm Golf Club – Mike Hurdzan & Dana Fry (2001) During a summer stay in 2001, Tiger Woods and Michael Jordan played it twice a day and the 18-hole big course once a day.

8: The Horse Course at The Prairie Club – Gil Hanse, Jim Wagner, & Geoff

Shackelford (2010) Ten greens, no tee boxes, and it's H-O-R-S-E for golf—win a hole and choose how you play the next one.

9: The Cradle Short Course at Pinehurst Resort – Gil Hanse (2017) Mere steps from the clubhouse are 789 yards of the most fun you'll have at the "Cradle of American Golf."

10: Bad Little Nine at Scottsdale National Golf Club – Tim Jackson & David Kahn (2016) Prepare to laugh at yourself as you get your teeth kicked in at the hardest par-3 course on the planet.



The Cliffs Course, Olympic Club



Golf Property Analysts New Golf Industry Numbers: What do they mean for the game's future?

Written by Larry Hirsh March 24th, 2017



Yesterday, the [National Golf Foundation](#) released its annual #'s on golf course supply in the United States. As expected, the US golf course supply continued to decline with a net loss of 190 courses nationwide. This continues a trend that began in 2005 when there were 16,052 courses nationwide to where we sit now with 15,014. This is a decline of 6.5% and an average decline of .6% per year. The ratio of private clubs to public access courses remained steady at about 25%.

While many outside the golf industry see this decline as an indication that "golf is dying", many within the industry see this as a needed correction in the market, and as good news.

Also, yesterday, [Golf 2020](#), an organization promoting the future of the game distributed a "Frequently Asked Questions" (FAQ's) summary to address some of the more positive economic news on the game. They note:

- Rounds played nationally were up in 2014, 2015 and 2016, and that the reduction in supply is not impacting demand;
- Nearly 1,000 major renovation projects have been completed since 2006 with investment of \$3 Billion;
- The compression of golf facilities since 2006 of about 6% compares with growth of 44% from 1986 to 2005;
- That bowling centers have decreased by 24% since 1998, ski areas 15% since 1991 and amusement parks by 6% since 2007.

Accordingly, golf seems to be faring better than some of the competing activities in nationwide supply.

Of particular interest in the Golf 2020 perspective is the information on millennials (age 18-34). The Golf 2020 report states:

- *Contrary to belief, golf is fun, young and cool. There are 6.3 million millennials (ages 18-34) playing 14.7 rounds or more than 93 million rounds of golf annually. They represent roughly 25% of the golf population and spend about \$5 billion annually in equipment, merchandise and playing fees.*
- *Last year, Golf Channel grew its millennial audience by 33% compared to 2015, which doubled over the previous two years. For digital, Golf Channel had 264 million live streaming minutes, a 96% increase over 2015.*
- *The industry is adapting to provide shorter golf experiences (e.g. six or nine holes) and non-traditional forms of the game (e.g. FootGolf, bigger holes) while still upholding the integrity and rules of the game.*
- *Nine-hole rounds comprised an average of one third of rounds played in 2016, according to the USGA. Women, casual golfers and individuals under age 55 are driving the increase in nine-hole rounds.*
- *In 2016, Topgolf had 10.5 million Topgolf visitors worldwide where 28% are occasional green grass golfers (1-7 rounds annually) and 37% are non-golfers (0 rounds annually). Additionally, 52% of guests are millennials (ages 18-34) and 32% of all guests are female. Topgolf has a total social media audience of nearly 2.4 million users and had 225.3 million mentions across all platforms in 2016.*

In addition, junior golf has grown considerably. As an example (according to Golf 2020) there's been an 11.4% growth in the number of high schools fielding competitive golf teams, which, in turn has led to a 13.1% increase (72,582 participants) in girls participation. The PGA Tour has experienced significant TV ratings increases and Golf Channel ratings reportedly increased by 60% since 2011.

So, with all these positive indicators (and more), why is golf perceived as "dying" by some and "struggling" by others? What does it mean for golf's future?

A very quick (and non-scientific) analysis of daily-fee golf courses we've surveyed in the past couple years shows that the average daily-fee golf course maintenance budget for the courses surveyed was about \$467,000 per 18 holes. This worked out to about \$15 per round **JUST FOR MAINTENANCE**. Golf 2020 says that the average round of golf costs \$37. Thus, golf course maintenance is about 40% of the cost. From the operator's perspective, that leaves just \$22 per round to pay for staff, clubhouse, marketing, mortgage, insurance real estate taxes and a reasonable operating profit. If the course does 25,000 rounds (\$925,000) that leaves a limited amount of cash for everything else. The question is not whether golf is *expensive*, but rather whether it's too cheap. It often seems like competitive market pressures motivate golf courses to provide the product (golf) for less than it costs to produce, obviously a recipe for disaster.

Accordingly, what I would anticipate is that there is still some market correction to occur before supply and demand are in balance to the point that golf courses can become more appropriately profitable. What is "appropriately profitable" one might ask? *The Dictionary of Real Estate Appraisal* defines economic feasibility as: *A condition that exists when prospective earning power is sufficient to pay a requisite rate of return on the completion cost (including indirect costs).* In other words, the estimated value at completion equals or exceeds the estimated cost. In reference to a service or property where revenue is not a fundamental consideration, economic feasibility is based on a broad comparison of

costs and benefits. The key here are the words *requisite rate of return*. That is different to everyone, but for golf properties, due to risk, management, weather and supply/demand issues those rates are typically *higher* than most other forms of investment property.

Therefore, I would anticipate that golf courses will continue to close at faster rate than they are developed until they can become profitable. Furthermore, it is incumbent on the industry to do a better job of growing the game to shorten this cycle. Many of the economic indicators referenced by Golf 2020 are positive, HOWEVER we have too much attrition.

To those of us who are either in the golf business or are lifelong golf enthusiasts, we don't understand how someone could leave the game. But, golf is not WELCOMING to the casual player or the non-golfer. The USGA and R & A have recognized this and proposed a streamlining and simplification of the rules. This is a great first step. Next, the game has to be perceived as "FUN". The "3 M's" (Millennials, Minorities and Moms) that golf so badly needs have little interest in dress codes, cell phone bans and overly oppressive rules and procedures. They just want to have a good time. Millennials, in particular have demonstrated a willingness to spend, but not when they're overwhelmed with rules.

What does this hold for the future? It depends on whether the (grand and ancient) game can evolve with society. Of course, there will be clubs that choose tradition over progress, and many of them will be just fine. If those clubs were to "lighten up" would it help (or hurt) them? Would it help the growth of the game? Like any business, golf's future depends on its ability to respond to the market(s). With many different market segments, time will tell which ones respond best to various changes in policy. In order for the game to grow, we need to do a better job of reaching the "3 M's" to preserve the health of golf for future generations.



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SPORTS

There Aren't Enough Golfers To Keep All Of The U.S. Courses In Business

June 5, 2019 · 4:47 PM ET

Heard on All Things Considered

PHOEBE PETROVIC

FROM  WISCONSIN
PUBLIC RADIO

3-Minute Listen

PLAYLIST Download
Transcript

An estimated 800 golf courses have closed in the last decade, freeing up vast swaths of green space and a new "golf course gold rush" for developers and loss of public courses for golfers.

ARI SHAPIRO, HOST:

There are more golf courses in the U.S. than anywhere else - about 2 million acres of green space all told. But there aren't enough golfers to keep them all in business. Wisconsin Public Radio's Phoebe Petrovic reports on the consequences.

PHOEBE PETROVIC, BYLINE: To understand what's happening today, you need to understand what occurred about 30 years ago. In the late 1980s, golf was surging, and the National Golf Foundation encouraged the industry to build a course a day for 10 years.

Jeff Davis, with the firm Fairway Advisors, says that encouragement was taken to heart.

JEFF DAVIS: The genie was out of the bottle. Developers - all they heard - and the mantra became - was build a course a day. And they did it.

PETROVIC: Over a 20-year period up until the early 2000s, they built more than 4,000 new golf courses. Greg Nathan with the National Golf Foundation says many of those courses fit the same mold.

GREG NATHAN: There was a lot of expensive-to-build, expensive-to-maintain, high-greens-fee golf courses.

PETROVIC: And Jay Karen, who's with the National Golf Course Owners Association, says it wasn't the golf industry building the courses.

JAY KAREN: It was the homebuilding industry that really drove much of the boom. Homebuilders made new golf courses the central amenity in the communities that they built around the country.

PETROVIC: Communities like this one built in Florida in 2000.

Attachment: GC-Att #4 - Aren't Enough Golfers (4787 : Municipal Golf Course)

(SOUNDBITE OF ARCHIVED RECORDING)

UNIDENTIFIED ACTOR: (As character) Waterlefe Golf & River Club, a one-of-a-kind residential community...

PETROVIC: In Florida, California, Pennsylvania, developers gobbled up land and built lush, rolling courses, surrounding them with expensive homes and hotels. Tiger Woods was in his prime, and residents sometimes paid millions to live in gated communities alongside golf courses.

But Karen says exclusive, expensive courses weren't the only ones built in the '90s.

KAREN: A lot of municipalities were also getting this exuberance around golf and wanted to add these crown jewels to their parks and recreation divisions and portfolios.

PETROVIC: But soon, there was too much supply and too little demand. The number of golfers and rounds played began to decline in the 2000s. And across the U.S., courses began to close - 10% of them since 2006. The National Golf Foundation says that reflects the market correcting itself. And for the remaining 14,000 courses, competition for players is fierce, especially for the almost 11,000 courses that are open to the public - whether daily fee courses owned by companies or municipal courses run by cities.

Madison, Wis., has more than a dozen golf courses in the area, and the city's four municipal courses are in crisis. They've lost money for the last decade - almost a million dollars last year alone.

Brad Munn grew up playing on Madison's municipal courses and now works on them. He's at the Monona Golf Course today driving in a cart.

BRAD MUNN: This is one of my favorite ladies.

PETROVIC: Oh, yeah?

MUNN: Yeah. OK, I got the reporter here, Nancy. We're ready to watch.

PETROVIC: Munn and Nancy Poole have known each other for about 30 years. She's played this course nearly every week with her women's group.

NANCY POOLE: We feel very strongly that it's part of the Madison parks, like bike paths and ball diamonds and everything else. We need to keep it open.

PETROVIC: City leaders say they're considering every option for the struggling courses, including closures. That worries Madison's parks superintendent, Eric Knepp. He says losing municipal courses could limit access for everyday golfers.

ERIC KNEPP: American golf has always had a stodgy, affluent, elite feel. Now, I know that's not our golfers, and I don't think it's good or healthy to have a space where we have 750 acres that are viewed as for these other people. That's for golfers.

PETROVIC: The municipal courses make up almost a fifth of Madison's park land. And Knepp says the best way to try to save them is to treat them as a public commons.

For NPR News, I'm Phoebe Petrovic in Madison.

(SOUNDBITE OF KARIM SAHRAOUI'S "BEFORE THE 2ND COMING")

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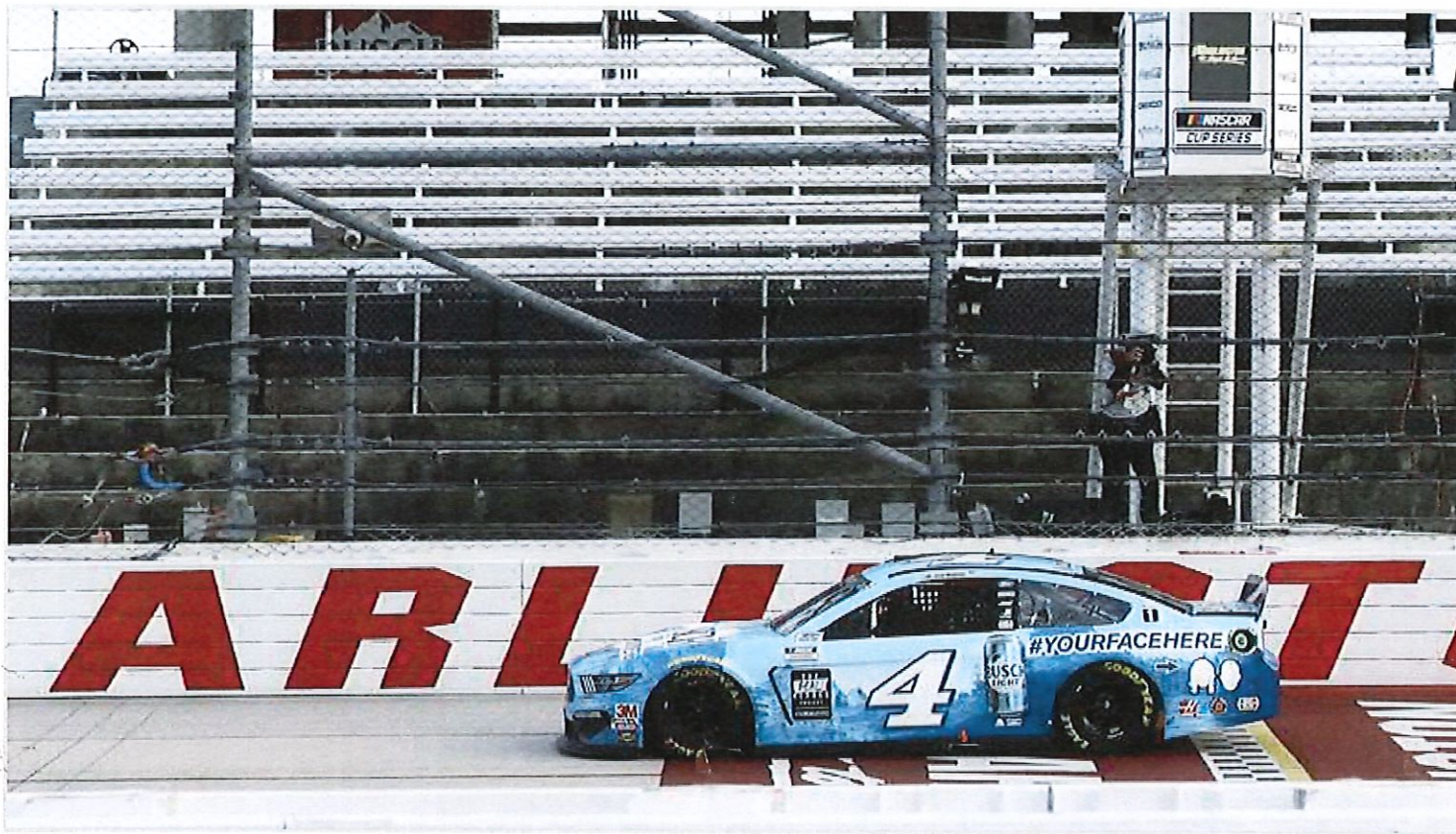
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Attachment: GC-Att #4 - Aren't Enough Golfers (4787 : Municipal Golf Course)



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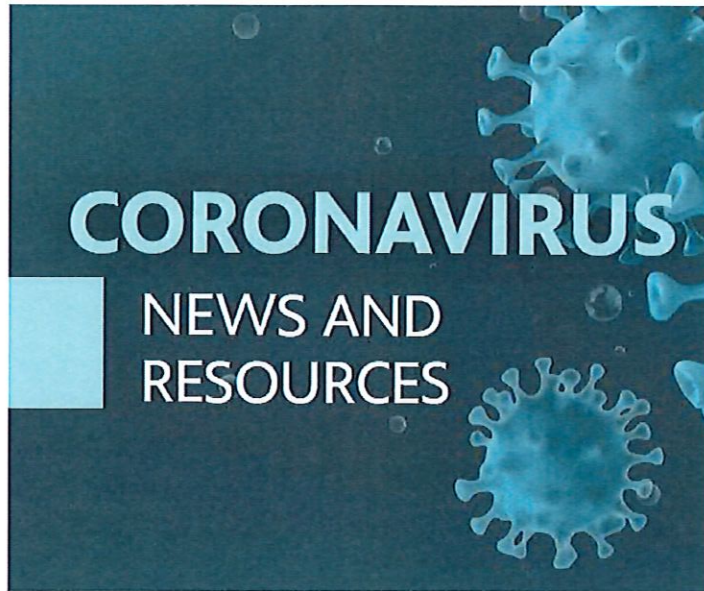
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LOCAL

Memorial Park's Golf Course Reopens After Renovation For PGA Tour

The Houston Astros Foundation is paying for the renovation. The first phase has been completed and the total project is budgeted at m \$30 million.

HPM DIGITAL TEAM / ELIZABETH TROVALL | NOVEMBER 4, 2019, 4:05 PM (LAST UPDATED: NOVEMBER 4, 2019, 4:34 PM)





The first phase of the renovation of Memorial Park's golf course is complete, advancing the project toward becoming a PGA certified course and hosting the Houston Open in the fall of 2020.

The Houston Astros Foundation is paying for the renovation, with the initial phase costing \$18.5 million. The total project is budgeted at more than \$30 million, to the City of Houston.

Astros owner Jim Crane attended a ribbon-cutting event Monday and highlighted the cooperation between the Astros Foundation and the city, which owns Memorial Park.

"This golf course will not only be an incredible home for the Houston Open, but for all Houstonians for years to come," Crane said.

Renowned golf course architect Tom Doak designed the new course. It includes a two-tiered 84-bay driving range and a new maintenance facility.

Another important element of the project is a sand cap layer installed under the new grass.

"It can have a rain event and within six to eight hours afterwards the rain will slip down in the sand cap and you will be able to come back and play on the golf course," said Steve Wright, director of the city's Parks and Recreation Department.

"We cleaned up a lot of the underbrush," Wright added, "a lot of the invasive trees and species that we had out to allow better airflow."

Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner highlighted the importance of Memorial Park hosting the PGA tournament next year, which hasn't happened within the city limits since 1963. "If you want to be a top tier city, then you have to provide the top tier amenities," Turner said.

The city estimates the economic impact of the Houston Open could be anywhere between \$50 million to \$90 million.

Wright said his department doesn't plan to increase golf course fees at Memorial Park.

City officials say they're also developing a scholarship program for young players who can't afford the greens fees.

The second phase of the project is scheduled to begin in December, with a goal to complete all construction before the Houston Open next fall.

Share



Attachment: GC-Att #5 - Memorial Park Golf Course Reopens (4787 : Municipal Golf Course)



The City of Liberty

City Council
1829 Sam Houston
Liberty, TX 77575

3.C.2

Meeting: 05/26/20 06:00 PM

Department: Administration
Category: Golf Course

RESOLUTION (ID # 4782)

DOC ID: 4782 A

Department: Golf Course

Subject: Equipment Purchases

Background: The golf course needs various pieces of equipment that are used daily for maintenance and course upkeep. Staff is recommending that the city purchase the following pieces of equipment, which will satisfy the golf course's equipment needs through the end of Fiscal Year 2021:

<u>Manufacturer</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Toro	ProCore 648	Greens Aerator	\$ 31,239.38
Toro	ProPass 200	Top Dresser	\$ 9,536.09
John Deere	Pro Gator	Large Utility Vehicle	\$ 25,976.59
Toro	Multi Pro 1750	175 Gallon Sprayer	\$ 34,257.40
John Deere	Progressive PF-120	Finish Mower	\$ 20,559.43
Total			\$121,608.89

All prices (except the Greens Aerator) were obtained through BuyBoard, which is a local purchasing cooperative.

Funding Source: Fleet Fund

Staff Recommendation: Approval of the equipment purchases.

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS, A HOME RULE MUNICIPALITY EXISTING UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT FOR THE LIBERTY MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

WHEREAS, the City of Liberty currently owns and operates the Liberty Municipal Golf Course; and

WHEREAS, constant maintenance and upkeep to the golf course is required to provide a high-quality golfing experience for our customers; and

WHEREAS, special equipment is needed to maintain a golf course; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has previously approved a fleet fund to be used for the purchase of equipment and vehicles for operation of the city.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Liberty, Texas hereby authorizes the City Manager to use the fleet fund to purchase the following pieces of equipment to be used at the Liberty Municipal Golf Course.

Manufacturer	Item	Description	Cost
Toro	ProCore 648	Greens Aerator	\$31,239.38
Toro	ProPass 200	Top Dresser	\$9,536.09
John Deere	Pro Gator	Large Utility Vehicle	\$25,976.59
Toro	Multi Pro 1750	175 Gallon Sprayer	\$34,257.40
John Deere	Progressive PF-120	Finish Mower	\$20,559.43
TOTAL:			\$121,608.89

PASSED AND APPROVED this 26th day of May, 2020.

CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS

Carl Pickett, Mayor

ATTEST:

City Secretary



The City of Liberty

City Council
1829 Sam Houston
Liberty, TX 77575

3.C.3

Meeting: 05/26/20 06:00 PM

Department: Administration
Category: LCDC Budget Matters

RESOLUTION (ID # 4783)

DOC ID: 4783 A

Department: LCDC

Subject: LCDC FY20 Budget Amendment

Background: On April 21, 2020 the LCDC Board of Directors voted 5-0 to amend their FY20 budget by \$24,850 to increase the transfer to the Golf Course. The funding from this budget amendment will be used to fund a renovation of the interior and exterior of the Pro Shop. The renovation will consist of the following:

- Interior
 - Paint
 - Remove & Replace Flooring
 - Refurbish Counter & Replace Countertop
 - Install New Window A/C with Heath
 - Replace Lighting with LED Lights
- Exterior
 - Install New Glass Doors with Aluminum Frames
 - Wrap Metal Posts with Hardie Board
 - Install Gutters with Gutter Guards on Rear of Building
 - Paint
 - Install Sidewalk from Front Door to Parking Lot

Staff has solicited bids from local vendors to perform this work. The bids are listed below:

Myron McDowell Construction - \$24,850

Arnold Construction - \$24,864

Lopez Roofing & Construction - No Bid

Funding Source: LCDC

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the resolution ratifying the budget amendment for the Pro Shop Improvements.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS RATIFYING AN AMENDMENT TO THE LIBERTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2020.

WHEREAS, the Liberty Community Development Corporation was formed for the purpose of implementing certain flood prevention and drainage improvements, and related capital improvement projects; and,

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Corporation to have at its disposal financial resources sufficient to fund these projects; and,

WHEREAS, additional funds were needed for upgrading the interior and exterior of the Liberty Municipal Golf Course Pro Shop. This upgrade enhances and beautifies the public space whereby residents and visitors pass daily, reflecting a great destination in the City of Liberty; and

WHEREAS, state statutes require that said financial resources be provided for through a budget;

WHEREAS, the Liberty Community Development Corporation, on April 21, 2020 voted to amend their FY20 Budget by \$24,850;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS:

That the City Council hereby ratifies the Liberty Community Development Corporation Budget for Fiscal Year 2020 by amending the budget to include additional expenditures in the amount of \$24,850.00.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 26th DAY OF MAY, 2020.

Carl Pickett, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dianne Tidwell
City Secretary



The City of Liberty

City Council
1829 Sam Houston
Liberty, TX 77575

3.C.4

Meeting: 05/26/20 06:00 PM

Department: Administration
Category: LCDC Budget Matters

RESOLUTION (ID # 4784)

DOC ID: 4784

Department: LCDC

Subject: LCDC FY20 Budget Amendment

Background: On April 21, 2020 the LCDC Board of Directors voted 5-0 to amend their FY20 budget by \$24,850 to increase the transfer to the Golf Course. The funding from this budget amendment will be used to fund a renovation of the interior and exterior of the Pro Shop. The renovation will consist of the following:

- Interior
 - Paint
 - Remove & Replace Flooring
 - Refurbish Counter & Replace Countertop
 - Install New Window A/C with Heath
 - Replace Lighting with LED Lights
- Exterior
 - Install New Glass Doors with Aluminum Frames
 - Wrap Metal Posts with Hardie Board
 - Install Gutters with Gutter Guards on Rear of Building
 - Paint
 - Install Sidewalk from Front Door to Parking Lot

Staff has solicited bids from local vendors to perform this work. The bids are listed below:

Myron McDowell Construction - \$24,850

Arnold Construction - \$24,864

Lopez Roofing & Construction - No Bid

Funding Source: LCDC

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the resolution ratifying the budget amendment for the Pro Shop Improvements.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS RATIFYING AN AMENDMENT TO THE LIBERTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2020.

WHEREAS, the Liberty Community Development Corporation was formed for the purpose of implementing certain flood prevention and drainage improvements, and related capital improvement projects; and,

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Corporation to have at its disposal financial resources sufficient to fund these projects; and,

WHEREAS, additional funds were needed for upgrading the interior and exterior of the Liberty Municipal Golf Course Pro Shop. This upgrade enhances and beautifies the public space whereby residents and visitors pass daily, reflecting a great destination in the City of Liberty; and

WHEREAS, state statutes require that said financial resources be provided for through a budget;

WHEREAS, the Liberty Community Development Corporation, on April 21, 2020 voted to amend their FY20 Budget by \$24,850;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS:

That the City Council hereby ratifies the Liberty Community Development Corporation Budget for Fiscal Year 2020 by amending the budget to include additional expenditures in the amount of \$24,850.00.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 26th DAY OF MAY, 2020.

Carl Pickett, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dianne Tidwell
City Secretary



The City of Liberty

City Council
1829 Sam Houston
Liberty, TX 77575

3.C.5

Meeting: 05/26/20 06:00 PM

Department: Administration
Category: Budget Amendments

ORDINANCE (ID # 4785)

DOC ID: 4785 B

Department: Golf Course

Subject: Personnel

Background: The Personnel Schedule in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 budget for the Golf Course includes four (4) full-time positions. Although the number of part-time positions is not specified in the budget, there is funding to hire four (4) part-time employees for the year. The current full-time positions are the Golf Course Manager, Golf Course Superintendent, the Pro Shop Manager and the Light Equipment Manager. The part-time positions include the Greens Keeper and three (3) Pro Shop Attendants. The Pro Shop Manager position was recently created due to the issues in the pro shop. Additionally, the Golf Course Superintendent's duties were expanded to include supervision of all golf course operations while the Golf Operations Manager's position is vacant. These personnel arrangement reflects full staffing at the golf course. The amount of course maintenance required requires a at least two (2) full-time positions in addition to time spent by the superintendent to maintain the course. In order to continue maintaining the course at an acceptable level, it is proposed to make the part-time Greens Keeper a full-time position. This will result in a net increase in the Golf Course Personnel Budget of approximately \$12,000.00.

Funding Source: The Golf Course is funded by golf course generated revenues and a transfer from the Liberty Community Development Corporation.

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the ordinance amending the Personnel Schedule for the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS AMENDING THE CITY'S FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020 BUDGET; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND DISPENSING WITH THE REQUIREMENT OF SECTION 3.10 OF THE HOME RULE CHARTER THAT ALL ORDINANCES BE READ ON TWO SEPARATE DAYS.

WHEREAS, the City Council for City of Liberty previously adopted a budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the personnel schedule for the golf course currently includes four (4) full-time positions and four (4) part-time positions; and

WHEREAS, the four (4) full-time positions include the Golf Course General Manager, the Golf Course Superintendent, the Pro Shop Manager, and the Light Equipment Manager; and

WHEREAS, the part-time positions include the Greens Keeper and three (3) Pro Shop Attendants; and

WHEREAS, additional full-time maintenance employees are needed to adequately maintain the golf course; and

WHEREAS, city staff proposes making the part-time Greens Keeper a full-time position.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS:

Section 1: The City of Liberty's 2019/2020 fiscal year budget is hereby amended to increase the personnel budget for the Golf Course by \$12,000.00 in order to convert the part-time Greens Keeper position to a full-time Greens Keeper position.

Section 2: That the requirement contained in Section 3.10 of the Home Rule Charter of the City of Liberty, Texas that all ordinances be read on two days is hereby dispensed with.

Section 4: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately after its passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of
Liberty, this 26th day of May, 2020.

Carl Pickett, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dianne Tidwell, City Secretary

**The City of Liberty**

City Council
1829 Sam Houston
Liberty, TX 77575

Meeting: 05/26/20 06:00 PM

Department: Administration
Category: Miscellaneous Issues

RESOLUTION (ID # 4781)

DOC ID: 4781 A

Department: Administration

Subject: July 3rd Independence Day Celebration

Background: The City of Liberty has held a Fireworks Display and Celebration at the Liberty Municipal Park for many years. This celebration includes musical entertainment, children's activities, food and fireworks. In light of the country's current issues and concerns with the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), this Resolution authorizes the cancellation of the event, should the City Council decide that cancellation is in the community's best interest.

Pyro Shows of Texas, the fireworks vendor, has communicated that they are willing to assist in any way possible. Should the show not be held, Pyro Shows will allow the City to reschedule the show to 2021, and not lose the current deposit of \$5500. Total cost of the fireworks is \$11,000. Total cost of the event is approximately \$12,783, not including employee overtime.

Funding Source: Fireworks are paid from the General Fund.

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends that if the event is not cancelled, that only the fireworks display be held, and the additional activities be postponed until the following year.

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF LIBERTY, TEXAS; SAID RESOLUTION CANCELLING THE CITY'S ANNUAL JULY 3RD FIREWORKS DISPLAY AND CELEBRATION FOR THE YEAR 2020, DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE.

WHEREAS, the City of Liberty has, for many years, held its Independence Day Celebration on July 3rd, in the Liberty Municipal Park; and

WHEREAS, the cost of said July 3rd Fireworks Display, including fireworks, children's activities, musical entertainment, totals approximately \$12,783, excluding employee overtime; and

WHEREAS, the country is experiencing an unprecedented and evolving situation with the Coronavirus Disease; which has threatened the public's health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that said the July 3rd Celebration would require many restrictions be put in place to promote the safety of the citizens of our community, as they are our top priority; and

WHEREAS, the fireworks vendor is allowing for the postponement of the show to 2021 with no loss of the current deposit, or will even refund the City's deposit with thirty (30) days notice.

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved by the City Council of Liberty, Texas that:

The July 3rd Fireworks Display and Celebration be cancelled, for the year 2020.

PASSED AND APPROVED, this the 26th day of May, 2020.

CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS

Carl Pickett, Mayor

ATTEST:

City Secretary

**The City of Liberty**

City Council
1829 Sam Houston
Liberty, TX 77575

Meeting: 05/26/20 06:00 PM

Department: Administration
Category: Miscellaneous Issues

RESOLUTION (ID # 4786)

DOC ID: 4786

Department: Administration

Subject: CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund

Background: The City has received Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) through the United States Health and Human Services Department (HHS) and the Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM). These grant funds are being distributed as part of the CARES Act. The grant agreement and provisions require local entities to execute the grant and certify the City is eligible to receive the funds. The City has received approximately \$25,000 from HHS and is eligible to receive up to \$536,250 from TDEM. The initial funding from TDEM will be 20% of the total allowable with the remainder received on a reimbursement basis.

Funding Source: NA

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute CARES Act related documents.

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS A HOME RULE MUNICIPALITY EXISTING UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AGREEMENTS RELATED TO THE CARES ACT CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND

WHEREAS, beginning in December of 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, was detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China, and has since spread throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, coughing, and shortness of breath. In some cases, the virus has caused death; and

WHEREAS, a Disaster Declaration has been issued by the President, Governor, and Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the city is set to receive Coronavirus Relief Funds from the CARES Act through the United States Health and Human Services Department (HHS) and the Texas Department of Emergency management (TDEM); and

WHEREAS, the grant agreement and provisions require local entities to execute the grant and certify the City is eligible to receive the funds; and

WHEREAS, the City has already received approximately \$25,000 from HHS and is eligible to receive up to \$536,250 from TDEM; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager needs authorization to sign the forms necessary to receive the grants for the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Liberty, Texas hereby authorizes the City Manager to execute all documents and agreements related to the City's application, acceptance and use of CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 26th day of May, 2020.

CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS

Carl Pickett, Mayor

ATTEST:

City Secretary