

The Claremont City Council held a meeting on Wednesday, August 10, 2011, in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Cutts at 6:30 p.m.

Members of the Council present were:

Ward II Councilor Keith Raymond
Ward I Councilor Victor Bergeron
Ward III Councilor Nicholas Koloski
Assistant Mayor Andrew Austin
Mayor Deborah Cutts
At-Large Councilor Adam Burke
At-Large Councilor Thomas Burnham

Absent:

At-Large Councilor Christopher Lewis
At-Large Councilor Kyle Messier (excused)

Also present were:

Guy Santagate, City Manager
Jane Taylor, City Solicitor

MAYOR'S NOTES

Stevens High School Student Council Update

None

Proclamation – Ed Evensen of the American Band

Mayor Cutts said the proclamation acknowledging Ed Evensen's 50 years with the Claremont American Band will be presented when the band plays in Broad Street Park tomorrow.

Proclamation – Zoning Board of Adjustment

Mayor Cutts presented a proclamation to the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) for its contributions to Claremont.

Jim Hanson, ZBA Vice Chair, thanked the Council for the recognition of the board. Board member Tom Rock echoed Mr. Hanson's comments. Mr. Hanson announced the names of the

other members: Mike Hurd, Chairman, Carolyn Towle, Pierre Caouette, Ed Friedman, Todd Russel and Dan Worcester.

Mr. Austin said he had spent time with U.S. Senator Shaheen, Mr. Santagate and Planning and Development Director Nancy Merrill touring Timberpeg. The business is really busy which is good for our City. It is an impressive operation. Senator Shaheen discussed energy conservation.

Mr. Raymond said he joined Congressman Charlie Bass, Mr. Santagate and Ms. Merrill during a tour of Structural Bridges. The company kept the production going while rebuilding the building. A year ago they had 70 employees and they are up to 129 now; there are another 20 in the training program. By the end of the year they hope to be up to about 175 employees and cap out at 200 by next year. Most of their work goes to Connecticut, Rhode Island and New York right now.

Mr. Santagate said that these visits underscore the number one goal we have in Claremont: economic development (broaden the tax base on industrial/commercial properties and to create better paying jobs). There are not enough jobs anywhere, so we are working on a job fair to be held in the fall. We are starting to see good signs of life especially in the better paying job areas of Timberpeg and Structural. Structural invested about \$20 million into their building which is about the length of three football fields. They have contracts out 4-6 years particularly in New York and New Jersey to build bridges. Mr. Santagate commended River Valley Community College (RVCC) for its training program in conjunction with Structural, a good example of partnerships between the public and private sectors.

Mayor Cutts said RVCC is doing well with its training program. They recently did a program with Hypertherm. She asked if those companies are happy with services the City provides. Mr. Santagate said Timberpeg is happy with the City and Structural had some challenges with construction because of code enforcement, but we have a very good relationship with them now. However, the codes have to be enforced.

Mayor Cutts congratulated the Tiger Shark Swim Team for its 3rd place win in the state championship. Carla Boyinton said her seven-year-old son was on the team and he loves it. Erin Clark said her soon-to-be second grade son started swimming with Kinderfest and was able to join the swim team. It has given him confidence and he wants to continue with the program. Parks and Recreation Director Scott Hausler recognized Tim Herson and his staff who maintains the pool. This was the ninth swim meet hosted in Claremont. There were 11 teams and over 400 swimmers from across the state. Mr. Raymond thanked the parents for coming in and said it is one of the best sports for kids to be in because it combines individual competition with team experience.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

A motion was made by Mr. Koloski and seconded by Mr. Bergeron to accept the minutes of the July 13, 2011, City Council meeting.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 7-0.

APPOINTMENT TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Frances J. Tolles Home Trustees

Mr. Burke nominated Alison Raymond to seat #4 of the Frances J. Tolles Home Trustees.

Mr. Raymond abstained as Alison Raymond is his wife.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 6-0 with 1 abstain (Mr. Raymond).

Mr. Bergeron nominated Wendy Moquin to seat #6 of the Frances J. Tolles Home Trustees.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Claremont Savings Bank

Mr. Santagate thanked Claremont Savings Bank (CSB) President Sherwood Moody and his board of directors for coming to the Council meeting. Mr. Santagate said we appreciate the generous \$3 million commitment by CSB for the New Community Center as well as their patience over that time period. This started 10-11 years ago with a survey. The commitment from CSB was 4 years ago and now it is time for an update.

Scott Hausler showed a PowerPoint presentation about the New Community Center.

He said he was there on behalf of the New Community Center for Claremont, Inc. (N3C) Board. He recognized board members Bob Weaver, Bob Landry, Wayne McCutcheon, Tawnya Courtemanche Jeff Coburn, Tammy Lumbra, Tom Davis and Mary Walter.

- New Community Center Update
- Current Facility Conditions
 - Facility is
 - Aging and obsolete
 - In 3 different buildings
 - Unable to provide programs the general public wants
 - Costly to maintain
 - Over the past 10 years it has been decided that, rather than spend millions of dollars on the existing building and still have an aging 1950s and 1970s vintage facility, we should focus on a new facility
 - How do we pay for it
- A New Community Center

- Citizen survey completed in fall of 2001
 - Health and wellness were the primary focus
 - Surveys showed the community wanted it and would support it
- The initial plans were for \$15 million
- How do we pay for it
- Taking the First Steps
 - In 2005, City Council gave N3C \$100,000 to begin fundraising efforts and challenged the committee to match the remaining \$900,000
 - In 2007, CSB stepped up with a match for the City funds and a challenge of \$3 million
 - CSB provided land (corner of Broad and South Streets)
 - The committee began drafting concept designs on the land parcel
- We Matched the \$1 Million
 - Thanks to CSB, N3C, matched the \$1 million challenge from the City council.
- Additional Steps
 - The committee began building relationships and talking to potential donors about the project
 - What would it look like
 - What amenities
 - Cost
- Capital Fundraising Process...the Committee Moves Forward
 - #1 fundraising rule is to raise 75% before making the project public
- What the Committee Experienced
 - The economy tanked
 - Potential donors lost 30% to 50% of their investment portfolios
 - Potential donors no longer had that same “giving” potential
- The Subgroups Kept Moving Forward
 - Options-could we phase it in
 - Pool is about \$6 million
 - Sell the old facility to the Post Office
 - No money there
- Moving Forward
 - Go with Design-Build
 - One company working on the whole project
 - Adjacent property purchased by N3C to accommodate the building site plan
 - Campus setting a real possibility
 - Send out a Request for Proposal
- Design Build Process – Keeping with the Building Concept
 - Larger pool, possibly with a smaller therapeutic or lesson pool
 - Elevated walking/jogging track
 - Cardio fitness area
 - Basketball court that could double as two separate sport courts (i.e. volleyball/basketball half courts)
 - Multi-function community room or classroom
 - Locker rooms and family changing areas

- More space with better design, flow and focus
- What We Did
 - 13 applicants responded to a Request for Proposals for design build services. Hutter Construction was chosen
 - In October 2009, an on-line survey was conducted. Response was favorable
 - Plans are now complete and they are ready to go out for construction services and market the actual design and concept
- Building Design
- Site Plan
- Elevation Views
- Main Level
 - 51,000 square feet in all
 - 39,000 square feet footprint
 - 1.39% of project is office space
- Lower Level
- Site & Building Presentation (video)
 - Plans for building 99% complete
 - Next phase is construction document review
- Design Plans Complete – Project is Shovel Ready (Except for Review)
- Next...Committee Halts Efforts – Why
 - The committee was asked by the school committee to hold back on project efforts due to the bond vote for the schools.
- Where Are We Now
- Claremont Community Center Budget and Fundraising Summary
 - Estimated Project Cost \$9,999,380
 - Less City of Claremont contribution \$1,000,000
 - Claremont Savings Bank challenge \$3,000,000
 - Less donations against challenge \$207,598
 - Less tax credit income from sales \$250,800
 - Less anticipated in-kind donations \$235,000
 - Remaining Needed to Fund Project \$5,305,982

Sherwood Moody, Claremont Savings Bank (CSB), introduced Joe Gorman, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and Wayne McCutcheon, also on the Board of Trustees. He said that CSB has been very supportive of the project from the beginning. In 2007 they wanted to celebrate CSB's 100th anniversary and part of that was to provide to the community something that could be used by all age groups as well as to show appreciation. At the same time, the Mill District was being renovated; the Oscar D. Brown Block was being worked on; and the bank had just completed its building. Economic Development is very important to the bank. They thought the recreation/community center was an important piece to attract businesses and people. The timing was right and they worked closely with N3C. They thought it should be in downtown, so in 2007, CSB announced the \$3 million contribution to the new community center and the land to build it on. They wanted to be the lead donor for this project. Fundraising started in January of this year. Efforts needed to be re-supported, so they put out a recommitment letter to the

committee. Part of the letter was the commitment deadline of August 2012. He said the bank trustees have authorized him to talk to the City Manager to jointly work together to bring this to fruition. This is an important part of economic development in this area.

Mr. Santagate said we are not asking for action tonight. The purpose of tonight's meeting is to open a dialog with the Council and the residents. He asked for opinions or questions from the Council. CSB has been very patient. This has been a tough recession. When the school was trying to raise funds, we backed away from fundraising. Now we owe an answer to CSB and the residents. Hopefully, we can come back with this in September. He gave out his home telephone number so that anyone can call him with their views. He asked for Council questions.

Mayor Cutts said she has always supported the new community center, but she asked how we will pay for this. Mr. Santagate said these are very difficult economic times. It sounds counterintuitive to squeeze money on one side, but then to go ahead with the project on the other side. He pointed out there are two different income streams: the operating budget which has recurring expenses and requires a continuous revenue stream and the capital budget which is for one-time expenditures that have a 5-50 year life. So, there is no conflict in his mind. It makes sense to spend the money now when you have historically low interest rates. He used an example of refinancing your mortgage. Bids are coming in about 25-30% below estimates and there are more people bidding which is a good reason to look at this as a viable alternative. There are good things happening in Claremont; we have been paying off General Fund balances and loans at a quicker rate than expected. In 2013 we will pay off two bonds, one for \$2-\$3 million and then that money will be available for new projects. In 2015, the River Road TIFD (Tax Incremental Finance District) matures. It is a very successful TIFD. The assessed value in that area is over \$12 million which will bring in about \$380,000 of excess revenue.

Mr. Bergeron said right now he would say no to floating a bond. He talked about the CIP (Capital Improvement Program), stock market going down and having to pay more into the retirement system, so we have to be careful. Mr. Santagate said we have to be cautious and that is shown in the amount of time we have taken on this. He agreed that right now there is a lot of grief out there, and that is why the interest rates are low. He is aware of the tough balancing act this project will take. This plays into the economic development plans for the City.

Mr. Austin referenced some things that Jeff Goff (banker and former City Councilor) had previously talked about. Mr. Santagate said there are ways to restructure the payments especially in the early years. Mr. Santagate said there are three things he would like to do while the prices are down: bond North and Main Streets Project for \$5 million, bond the new community center for \$10 million which would be \$15 million and of that would be \$1 million for road paving. We currently have \$7.5 million (not paid by Claremont or NH taxpayers), \$4 million from the federal government for North and Main, \$3 million from CSB for the New Community Center and \$500,000 raised through tax credits. He asked for input from the Council and the community. We'll bring it back in September for a vote. He will meet with the school superintendent to make sure they will not resurrect the request for a school building.

Mr. Koloski said it is worth looking at, although he wants to be cautious. We don't want to let this slip by. He thanked CSB for the opportunity given to the City. He feels the Council owes gratitude to the Parks and Recreation Department, for all they give the City.

Mr. Santagate said it is very important to know that the GCC building is about to outlive its useful life. The outdoor pool continues to be a challenge. We have continued to patch these facilities to keep them open, but we don't want to continue putting good money after bad. We talked to the Post Office, but they have no interest in buying those buildings. Those buildings would have been shut down without the efforts of the Parks and Recreation staff. He talked about what happens to the tax rate between 2012 and 2013 before the bond is retired. If the money is bonded this year, the first payment will be due in 2012 and the second in 2013. The estimated increase will be around 54 cents on the 2012 tax rate. The following year it drops to 17 cents and in 2015 the impact goes to zero because the River Road TIFD matures and the revenue from that goes into the General Fund. By that time, it is hoped that the Downtown TIFD will be able to stand on its own feet and the spin-off should start to take place. CVS is an example of the growth that could happen. When the TIFD matures, there will be almost \$400,000 added to the revenue stream; that and the bond will certainly pay off the \$7.5 million. He would like input from the public. If Council wishes, we can schedule a public hearing and vote on the bond in September.

Mr. Burnham said we know we need a community center and 17 cents on the tax rate is a good thing. He said if we talk honestly with citizens, we stand a good chance of the public agreeing to this. This has to be done to move the City forward.

Mr. Santagate said the South Street campus (Claremont Middle School, Sugar River Valley Regional Technical Center, Arrowhead, trail, Monadnock Park and the community center) in the downtown area would be a big plus. Public input on this is important. He said in-kind donations will rise substantially when the funding is in place.

Mr. Burke said he has always been a supporter of this; however, he shares Mr. Koloski's concerns about the taxes. He talked about the River Road TIFD supporting the Downtown TIFD and asked if the Downtown TIFD can support itself by 2015. Mr. Santagate said there is tremendous potential for growth in the Downtown TIFD; there are a lot of inquiries into that area although there are no guarantees. Red River Computers and the Common Man continue to grow. The vacant building down there could be mixed use (commercial and residential). Every TIFD in the country is now facing challenges. There is always a risk that the TIFD won't stand on its own two feet. As an example, he said the Lebanon airport has been running at a deficit for years. A portion of CVS is in the Downtown TIFD. When the economy turns around, the Peterson Building will be in good shape; we have had some inquiries about that building from the Upper Valley. The infrastructure we have in Claremont is far beyond our capacity. There is tremendous architecture in the City. He is confident the City will do well in the long run.

Mr. Raymond agreed with Mr. Santagate that we need to come up with a plan for the pool and the GCC with minimal costs.

Mr. Bergeron said he would like to have a public hearing in October with a first reading in September.

Mayor Cutts thanked CSB for its patience.

Bernie Folta, Ward 3, said the survey Mr. Hausler talked about was done in 2001 (10 years ago). He questioned the operating costs of a new community center. He wondered about the utilization of the new community center. He talked about the school vote (getting a \$23 million school for \$14 million) and that citizens voted no. He talked about a referendum for voting to spend such a large amount of money and that state law and Claremont do not allow that. He said that going ahead may suggest that spending money on recreation is more important than education and he questioned if it is better for economic development. He said he is not against the community center. He noted that City Council elections are coming up in November and what happens with the community center may impact that. Mayor Cutts noted for the record that the community voted for the school bond and only on recount was that changed. Mr. Santagate pointed out that the majority voted for the school bond; 2/3 vote was required.

Steve Raymond, Ward 1, asked how much more taxes people will pay for this building (water and sewer). Mayor Cutts said that will be included in the presentation.

CITIZEN'S FORUM

Gary Beauman, Pappas Road resident for 30 years, said he was the originator of the Pappas Road petition that was given to the Council. The decision to spread gravel on top of pavement in two areas, one being the steepest part of the hill, will be dangerous this winter. The total area is one-half mile. They would have preferred to have left the road as it was. He asked where to go with this. Mayor Cutts asked Mr. Santagate to follow-up on this. Mayor Cutts thanked the citizens for the petition.

Steve Raymond, Ward 1, said that East Green Mountain Road needs a good base on the road. He would like to see back roads addressed before spending money on a new community center.

Ordinance 523 Credit Card Acceptance – Second Reading – Public Hearing

The purpose of this proposal is to authorize the acceptance of amounts due to the City by use of a credit card, debit card or other electronic transfer, as authorized by RSA 80:52-c.

Enactment of this Ordinance will enable payment to the City by credit, card, debit card and electronic transfer in addition to the current methods of payment by cash and bank check.

A motion was made by Mr. Koloski and seconded by Mr. Burke to adopt Ordinance 523 Credit Card Acceptance.

Mr. Koloski read the explanation of proposed action into the record.

Mayor Cutts opened the public hearing.

Bernie Folta, Ward 3, thinks this is an excellent idea.

Cynthia Howard, Ward 2, asked about the cost of the terminals. Ms. Walter said that would be part of the negotiations. The intention is for the City to not incur any costs. Ms. Howard asked about a service charge. Ms. Walter said the presentation from first reading is on the City's website. There is a convenience fee that is passed on to the user and it will probably be about 3%. Ms. Walter said the costs will be noticed to the user before the transaction. Ms. Howard asked if we are leasing or purchasing the terminals. Lisa Richmond, Treasurer, said the different fees are incorporated into the user fee.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 7-0.

Technology Update

Ms. Walter said we are still in talks with Red River Computer; they are looking over our voice Over IP (VOIP) services and the infrastructure that we have. They have given us a confidential report. Mr. Santagate said he will check on the confidentiality of the report. Although, it did say we have pretty good infrastructure. Ms. Walter said the VOIP (phone system) is a weakness. Money has been set aside for the phone system. We are in ongoing talks for the phone system.

NEW BUSINESS

Extreme Cold Weather Project

Alexis Rastorguyeff, Ward 2 resident and deacon at Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church on Sullivan Street, said he moved to Claremont in July 2001. He talked about individuals who, for whatever reasons, have chosen not to participate in formal shelter programs provided by the state and local organizations and will face the cold weather this winter. Members of Open Hands Mission, Trinity and Union Episcopal Churches, the First Congregation Church, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, St. Mary's Catholic Church and Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church got together with Upper Valley Interfaith Project (UVIP) to see what could be done. Fire codes eliminated the possible use of their facilities and the cost to upgrade them was prohibitive. They were looking for partners to help secure a suitable facility to address this need.

Mr. Raymond thanked him for bringing this forward. Mr. Rastorguyeff said this would be specifically for people who cannot or will not go to a standard shelter.

Doreen Needham, Ward 2, said she was in contact with Mary Hall, Homeless Outreach, and the latest figures are that she is working with 96 households with 176 individuals in this situation. Another shelter is not the answer. They are looking for a heated building. Mr. Rastorguyeff said volunteers would man the building when temperatures dropped below certain temperatures. He said police would be notified and they would work together.

Mr. Santagate said he has met with the group. At issue is the building would have to have certain amenities. Code enforcement is a major issue. If you get federal money and there is an emergency, then federal rules are enforced for use of the building. In Claremont, we have done a lot in this area. He sees it as a regional problem. He thinks going to the county is a good place to start. Mr. Rastorguyeff said many of these people are not mobile. He said each community needs to do something. Mr. Rastorguyeff said they have been thinking about the armory; it has bathrooms and kitchen facilities, but no sprinklers. These are real human beings that are out in the cold.

Mr. Austin asked how many people are in this situation. The number was not known, however Mr. Rastorguyeff said some students in the Claremont school system are in this situation. Mr. Koloski said we should be able to find those numbers.

Bernie Folta, Ward 3, said for two years he was Chairman of the Board for the Claremont Senior Center. In September 2010, the UVIP asked about using the Senior Center. Members had concerns and the board could not help out. He gave this information as background.

Steve Raymond, Ward 1, said the Sullivan County Nursing Home used to take homeless people in at one time.

Mr. Koloski asked if the rentable space in the parking garage has a sprinkler system or is heated. Mr. Santagate said no.

Motion to Authorize the Sullivan County ATV Club and Shugah Valley Snow Riders to Work on City-owned Land

Roger Wright, Ward 3 and member of Shugah Valley Snow Riders, said they were requesting permission to make some repairs and upgrades on the trail up to Arrowhead in the area from the wood line up approximately 1,500 feet. This is the first of three phases. They will haul in approximately 25 loads of material and rebuild the trail tread in accordance with state guidelines. They will have to cut some trees (most are saplings) to maintain a 12-foot trail tread. New water bars will be installed. The area will be reviewed every year according to the maintenance plan and the two clubs (Shugah Valley Snow Riders and Sullivan County ATV Club) would alternate doing that. A new snowmobile trail has been laid out; it leaves City property and returns. They have gotten permission from the property owner to put the trail on their land. This year is the first phase of the project. Both clubs are working together. The ATV Club was able to get a grant from the state of \$13,527 and will also contribute \$2,236 from the club. The snowmobile club will contribute \$5,141 for a total contribution of \$20,904 for this phase.

Mr. Koloski said that this request has gone through the Conservation Commission and gotten approval.

A motion was made by Mr. Koloski and seconded by Mr. Raymond to authorize the Shugah Valley Snow Riders and Sullivan County ATV Club to perform upgrades and maintenance on certain portions of the City's Rail Trail and the Arrowhead Trails, as

outlined (the “Projects”). The Projects will be coordinated through the Parks & Recreation Department, subject to the following conditions: 1) written permission is obtained from private landowners impacted by the Projects; 2) the Projects will not impact wetlands; and 3) work on the Arrowhead trails will be performed in compliance with the City’s Forestry Management Plan.

Mr. Bergeron asked if the City has received a copy of the written permission from the private landowner. Ms. Taylor said not yet, but it is part of the agreement.

Mr. Burke asked about liability. Ms. Taylor said City officials and board and commission members are covered by the immunity and indemnification re-adopted last January. Also, the club members are covered by the state policy because of the use permission that has been granted by the Council. Other volunteers have to sign a form saying the City is not liable for their volunteering.

Ms. Taylor said we have a complete set of DOT trail plans and she asked the boundaries of the trails be confirmed before work begins. She said that Public Works Director Bruce Temple knows where 90% of the boundary markers are.

Ms. Koloski thanked the clubs for the \$20,904.

Ms. Taylor said when they are finished, we will have them come back to the Council to accept the donation.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 7-0.

Resolution 2011 - 21 Expend Airport Grant – Public Hearing

Fire Chief Rick Bergeron said this is a follow-up from the last month in reference to vegetation removal from the airport. The grant total is \$195,700 from FAA; state share is \$5,150; City share is \$19,277 including a match of \$5,150, plus an additional \$14,127 from the Airport Capital account. This grant process started last January. When the airport planners presented this, FAA identified three areas that were not eligible for this grant. FAA paid for vegetation removal of those areas 10-15 years ago. So, it is up to the City to remove the vegetation from those areas. Another item is the airport perimeter fencing that was paid for by FAA grants and maintenance is required to be paid for by the City. This issue may come up in the future.

Mr. Burke asked if we have a maintenance plan in place. Mr. Bergeron said it was noted in the past month the fence was starting to be damaged by trees. Stantec is concerned about roots affecting fence posts. A maintenance plan will soon be in place.

A motion was made by Mr. Burke and seconded by Mr. Raymond to adopt Resolution 2011 - 21 Expend Airport Grant.

Mr. Burke read the resolution into the record.

Mayor Cutts opened the public hearing. No one spoke. She closed it.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 7-0.

Parks & Recreation Department Programs

Scott Hausler showed a PowerPoint presentation about Parks & Recreational Programs.

- Department Mission
 - The City of Claremont Parks & Recreation Department is dedicated to providing quality recreation facilities, programs and services to enhance the quality of life for the residents of Claremont
- A Little History
 - 1942-1953 Leonard R. Haubrich, Mrs. Goodwin and Miss Bailey provided a community center for Claremont citizens
 - 1953 Goodwin-Bailey Indoor Pool dedicated
 - 1975 Construction began on the Anthony Zotto Gym
 - 1998-2000 inventory and review all indoor and outdoor facilities
 - 1999 City received federal grant to improve outdoor facilities
 - 2001 Community Recreation & Parks survey
- Parks & Recreation
- Recap of the Past Decade
 - Including Parks 2000 program
 - 2001 Needs Assessment survey
 - 2005 City received \$600,000 donation for new track
 - 2008 City Council authorized \$300,000 for lighting the new track, snowmaking gun, lift tower for Arrowhead and funds for the skate park
- Showed slides of the old equipment and structures
- Then he showed updated pictures of Indoor Pool, Zotto Gym Interior, Gardner Room
- Adopt-A-Room Program
- Adopt-A-Room GCC Facelift
- Indoor Pool Upgrades
- Indoor Pool Aesthetics
- Zotto Gym
- Barnes Park Basketball Court Construction
- Park Improvement Plan
- Playgrounds for Parks
- Fencing-Signage-Gardens
- Facility Improvements
 - Skatepark
- Lowes Facility Improvements
- Support for Tubing Lift and Snowmaking Gun
- Continue Improvements/New Uses Visitor Center Green

- Department Programming Improvements
- Special Event Programs
 - Events have admissions and/or sponsorships to off-set and, in some cases, cover the entire direct cost of the program
- Some of Our Events
 - Chili Cook-off and 5k Road Race
 - Hallowesta Halloween
 - Lollipop Carnival
 - Annual Outdoor Egg Hunt
 - Winterfest Vacation Week (now weekend events during the month of February)
 - Father/Daughter Dance
 - State Swim Meet for the Past 9 Years
- Department Programs
 - Hook-A-Kid on golf
 - Youth Soccer (CYSA)
 - Start Smart Soccer
 - Start Smart Baseball
 - Quick Start Tennis
 - Start Smart Baseball
 - Quick Start Tennis
 - Start Smart Basketball
 - Baseball/Softball (CYBSA)
 - Babe Ruth Baseball
 - U16 and Under Softball
 - Drama Classes/Theatre Camps
 - Mini Cardinal Basketball
 - TSV Basketball Tournament
 - Mini Cardinal Football
 - NFL Punt Pass & Kick
 - Sports Camps
 - Youth Lacrosse U11-U17
 - Aqua Fitness
 - Bone Builders
 - Yoga
 - Zumba and Zumba Gold
 - Adult Volleyball
 - Adult Softball Coed Open Gym Basketball
 - Swimming Lessons 18 Sessions
 - Summer Swim Team
 - Winter Swim Team
 - Senior Trips
 - Street Hockey
 - Drop-In-Tennis
 - Drop-In Toys-N-Tots
 - Scrapbooking

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- Archery
- 5K Road Races
- Tuesday Treks
- Kayaking
- All Out In Moody Park XC Race
- SOAR Adventure Camp
- Western NH Trail Run
- Vacation Week Camps
- Adult Drop-In Soccer
- GCC Game Room
- Hershey Track and Field
- Movies on the Green
- Night Sledding at Arrowhead Preceded the Facility's Re-birth
- Program Development
 - Community provides input on program offers
- Indirect and Direct expenses of Recreation Programs
- Cost Recovery of Programs
 - Forms of revenue include fees/charges, sponsorships, donations, tax money
 - Revenue producing programs are Day Camps, Youth Sports, Adult Sports, Adult Fitness, Special Events, After School Programs, Instructional Programs
- Let's Take a Look at a Couple Program Examples
- Lollipop Carnival
- 2010 Sponsors of Lollipop Carnival
- 2010 Lollipop Carnival
 - Program Revenue \$2,796.00
 - Direct Cost \$2,036.92
- Kinderfest Program Description
- What Do Kinderfest Users Pay – 2011/2012 Academic Year
 - AM Kindergarten \$105.00 per week (\$21.00 per day x 186 days = \$3,906)
 - PM Kindergarten, First-Second Grade \$65.00 per week (\$13.00 per day x 186 days = \$2,418)
- Kinderfest Direct/Indirect Cost – 2010/2011 Academic Year 184 Days
 - Revenue \$41,084
 - Direct Cost \$36,562.46
- Cost Recovery/Indirect Cost Example
 - Estimated 92.3%
- Parks & Recreation/GCC is 6.36% of the City's \$14,595,000 Budget
- Direct Economic Benefits
 - Parks & Recreation Department is one of the few businesses that brings “new money” into the local economy through events, tournaments and programs
- Volunteers
 - Without them, it would be difficult to provide coaches and instructors
- Benefits of Parks & Recreation

- Our parks and recreation service offers what is needed to improve the health of every Claremont citizen. The investment is small; the return is great.
- Thomas Jefferson quote
- Questions

Council thanked Mr. Hausler for the presentation and for the work of his staff and volunteers.

Mr. Bergeron talked about the free movies on the Visitors Center green. He said Kiwanis made popcorn and they heard that people had a good time. Mr. Hausler said this Friday's movie is sponsored by CSB. He thanked Justin Martin, summer intern. He introduced his staff, Tim Hernon, Jeff Coburn, board member, Jamie Foster, Angela Dufield, as well as Kinderfest employees Dianne Harlow and Marlene Jekubovich.

Mary Thomas, Ward 1, said she is a parent of a 7 and 4 year old. Her son participates in Kinderfest. The environment is warm and welcoming. Through Kinderfest he was introduced to swimming and the different parks. She talked about the wonderful Parks and Recreation facilities and staff.

Bernie Folta, Ward 3, said in reference to tourism that Claremont is a regional market town. People come from eastern Vermont, west central NH and south from Charlestown. One of Claremont's strengths is as a regional market town. We should maximize that strength.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Hausler talked about a 24-hour softball game to be held at Veterans Park on Labor Day weekend, September 3, 6 p.m. to September 4, 6 p.m. This would be a fundraising effort to support the new community center. The park closes at 9 p.m., so we need Council approval to run the event throughout night and early morning (lights will be on and games will be going on). 40 people will participate and they have a goal of raising \$5,000. Jeff Coburn said participants have to make a \$100 donation to play. They will work with the Police Department for nighttime monitoring. Mayor Cutts asked about the age of participants. Mr. Coburn said they have to have graduated from high school. Mr. Bergeron asked if they had spoken to the neighbors. Mr. Coburn said three of them are going to play.

A motion was made by Mr. Raymond and seconded by Mr. Burke to approve the team's request.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Santagate said work on Drapers Corner continues. They will not be taking any houses, just strips of land. There is a 30-day waiting period for action on that. We are trying to get it started by the end of the year, if not, then we'll begin in the spring at the latest. CVS is moving along. We are working on North and Main to get the construction started soon.

Mr. Bergeron asked about paying for the \$160,000 shortfall from the state. Mr. Santagate said that Ms. Walter was on vacation and this was a busy agenda. We are still trying to determine the effects of the state's actions on the City. There may be a one-time pot of money (\$3.5 million) set aside for that, but we don't know how much Claremont will get. The impact in 2012 could be neutral or not and in 2013 we could pick up more. We will come in September to address the issue.

Mr. Burnham said the state reinstated the retirement contribution to 25%. Mr. Santagate said he would guess that may come from the \$3.5 million pot, but we don't know what's going to happen going forward. Mr. Burnham asked why the Municipal Association has not taken action against the state. Mr. Santagate said he will have to check it out.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND DIRECTIVES

Mr. Koloski asked about 911 naming of streets and locations, i.e. Riverbend Marketplace (Home Depot), Riverside (Tractor Supply Company) and Riverside Park. Mr. Santagate said we will have a future discussion about it.

Mr. Koloski asked about the request by Alex Ray, Common Man, to work on the smokestack. Mr. Santagate it is still being researched for a grant for the study. He said Mr. Ray is still interested in it.

Mr. Koloski asked about getting a list of city-owned properties to look at putting them back on the tax rolls. Mr. Santagate said the state had put some property up for sale, but the prices are dismal they pulled it off the market. The most important thing would be to look at the use of the property. We should review the list and bring it forward to the Council. He talked about the Claremont City Center Project Steering Committee and how many properties would be in that area. We need the priority list first. Mr. Koloski said he is curious what parcels we have and it would give us a chance to explain why we are holding these properties. Mr. Santagate said we can look at that. Mr. Santagate asked if Mr. Koloski wanted an inventory of all city-owned properties. Mr. Koloski said yes.

Mayor Cutts talked about a special meeting in September for the new community center. Mr. Bergeron would like to have the official vote in October.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Claremont 250th Anniversary Committee

Mr. Koloski asked for someone to come in from this committee.

Claremont City Center Project – Steering Committee Report

Mr. Bergeron, Vice Chair of the Committee, said the meeting last night was to decide on the survey and focus groups. Survey suggestions are being sent to the staff. They will do a sample

survey. There will be four focus groups: realtors, bankers, insurance people together; contractors, electricians, etc.; business and commercial property owners; and Public Works, Police and Fire.

Mayor Cutts said there are two seats available for this committee. Contact Planning for applications.

CONSULTATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL

None

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:38 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Burke and seconded by Mr. Raymond to adjourn.

Voice Vote: Motion carried 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dorée M. Russell
Clerk to the Council