

City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska

Monday, March 17, 2014

Regular Meeting

Item Reports5

**Council discussion and instructions to staff regarding the
Monument Valley Pool Pass.**

Staff Contact: Perry Mader, Park and Rec Director

Agenda Statement

Item No.

For meeting of: March 17th, 2014

AGENDA TITLE: Council to consider discontinuing the Monument Valley Adventure Pass.

SUBMITTED BY DEPARTMENT/ORGANIZATION: Parks and Recreation

PRESENTATION BY: City Manager Rick Kuckkahn

SUMMARY EXPLANATION: The Parks and Recreation Department is asking Council to consider discontinuing the Monument Valley Adventure Pass. (Please see accompanying documentation for explanation.)

The pass has been of little benefit to the City of Scottsbluff and has put additional stress on our pool capacity, staff and equipment.

EXHIBITS

Resolution x Ordinance Contract Minutes Plan/Map

Other (specify) _____

NOTIFICATION LIST: Yes No Further Instructions

APPROVAL FOR SUBMITTAL: _____
City Manager

Rev 3/1/99CClerk

From: Triniti Burgner
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2014 10:58 AM
To: Rick Kuckkahn
Subject: MVAP

Rick,

I have felt for a few years now that we need to look at discontinuing the MVAP for the Scottsbluff/Gering pools. I don't believe that the pass is beneficial to Scottsbluff for many reasons. First, Gering residents are able to add Scottsbluff on to their pool pass for \$40 during the month of May. Likewise, Scottsbluff residents are able to add Gering to their pool pass for \$35 during the month of May. Each City keeps the "add on" money in a fund that was originally suppose to be used for future joint projects. Scottsbluff used some of the money 3 yrs ago to purchase 2 laptops for the pools and to pay for the wireless internet during the summer months at Westmoor. The laptops are used for keeping track of pool passes and helping speed up the process of checking pass holders in during open swim. As of April of last year, the "add on" money in our fund was around \$9,500. This was the amount of money collected (minus the few expenses mentioned) in the past 7 yrs. To me, it seems like that amount of money could be made up a lot quicker than 7 yrs if some of these people were to purchase strictly Scottsbluff pool passes, or even just bring their families and pay gate cost a few times throughout the season. Many people that purchase this pass are Gering residents. Therefore, quite a few Gering residents have access to our pools every summer for \$40, while Scottsbluff residents are paying \$125. I understand that this goes both ways as well. Although the difference is that we provide a year round opportunity for pass holders while Gering provides 3 months.

We have also had problems with rules associated with the pass. Every year there is some disagreement between the two cities as far as what is fair and accepted. Because of this, I have added on a couple options for the pass that allow babysitters and grandparents to also be included. This has alleviated some of the disagreement, but not all of it.

I would like to see the pass discontinued and the money collected be used for some kind of lifeguard incentive. We used to send a team of guards to a lifeguard competition every year in Grand Island. We quit doing that about 9 yrs ago when budgets were tight. This would provide these kids a mid summer "pick me up" and give them something to look forward to. The money could also be used for an end of the season guard party for both cities, or a free themed party for pass holders at Westmoor. These are just a few suggestions.

I know that Gering needs to be part of this decision as well, but I feel that we need to bring it up for discussion. The contract states that either party can terminate the contract with proper notice. Swim season will be here before we know it so I feel it's best to look at this and make a decision sooner rather than later. If it is not something that you feel Council will want to discuss, I feel at the very least that we need to adjust our pricing. Thoughts?

Triniti