



GENERAL ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
Tuesday, June 13, 2023
Minutes

The City of Rome General Administration Committee met at 9:00 AM on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at the Rome Tennis Center at Berry College.

Members present:

Commissioner Bill Collins, Chairperson
Commissioner Randy Quick
Meredith Ulmer, Asst. City Manager
Toni Rhinehart, Finance Director
Johnny Bunch, OTS Director
Colt Gaston, RTC
Chris Boden, Rome City Schools

Commissioner Jamie Doss
Sammy Rich, City Manager
Joe Smith, City Clerk
Kristy Shepard, HR/RM Director
David Hoyt, Stonebridge Golf
Lisa Smith, Tourism/RTC
Mark Green, Recording Secretary

Members absent:

Andy Davis, City Attorney

Chairperson Bill Collins called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM.

I. Minutes

The minutes from April 11, 2023, were approved by common consent.

II. New Business- None

II. Old Business- None

III. Reports

Stonebridge Golf

Joe Smith and David Hoyt presented the reports for Stonebridge Golf. Hoyt began by informing the committee that the Launchbox Facility had recently been destroyed in a windstorm. On a positive note, Hoyt proceeded to inform the committee that May 2023 was a record setting month for Stonebridge Golf's revenue. Smith commented, "One of the great things about Stonebridge is our driving range." Commissioner Collins offered positive remarks related to the driving range and the Launchbox technology.

Collins commented, "Joe (Smith), you have done an exceptional job with this golf course." Smith responded, "The City Commission has always supported Stonebridge... We have a good management company, and a good arrangement." Commissioner Doss questioned, "Typically, what does a round (of golf) cost?" Hoyt responded, "The average price for a round (18 holes with cart) is about \$50 during the week and \$65 on the weekend." Prior to concluding the report, Hoyt commented, "I did want to give a shoutout... City maintenance has been nothing but superb over the last few weeks."

Rome Tennis Center

Colt Gaston presented the reports for the Rome Tennis Center. Gaston commented, "I wanted to give a shoutout to the City. We were hosting an Amazon Prime streaming event, and the power went out... City staff were here within minutes, and we were back up and going in thirty minutes." Gadsden provided the financial reports for the Tennis Center. Gaston brought attention to the tournament expense line item on the statement from March 2023. Gaston continued to provide the committee with a glowing review of the happenings at the Tennis Center. In addition, Gaston notified the committee that the Tennis Center would like to host more college events in the future.

Lisa Smith commented, "We are really stable with our staff here. Colt will soon "hit the road" in efforts to land more tournaments for the facility... We are going to need to look at an expansion plan." Smith notified the committee of the intentions to enclose the north pavilion at the Rome Tennis Center at Berry College (RTCBC). Smith also notified the committee of the need for additional bathrooms at the RTCBC. Smith commented, "There is expansion on the horizon. That is a good thing."

Barron Stadium

Chris Boden presented the reports for Barron Stadium. Boden began, "As usual, Barron Stadium is pretty busy. We had a really good Spring." Boden continued to inform the committee of the various events hosted at Barron Stadium in recent months. Boden commented, "The biggest issue we encounter is parking."

Boden reminded the committee that the Corky Kell event is fast approaching. In addition, Barron Stadium is scheduled to host the State Track meet next year. Commissioner Quick questioned, "What are the hours that the public can use the track?" Boden responded, "It is pretty much 24/7... We try not to ever close it." Doug Walker asked, "Do we have any idea what impact the 2nd Avenue widening project will have?" Boden responded, "We do not. I don't even know the exact date when they will begin." Sammy Rich commented, "It is going to be a mess."

A brief conversation regarding parking ensued. Commission Quick asked, "Were there any standout suggestions on parking?" Boden responded, "We are going to put some signage up around Barron. We are going to continue to work together and communicate." Rich commented, "Parking is going to be a continuous discussion."

OTS Report

Johnny Bunch presented the reports for the Office of Technology Services (OTS). Bunch commented, "We are in the final stage of the Comcast fiber project. This project will connect several remote City locations. This is going to be a big improvement." Bunch continued to report a variety of network security measures.

Collins commented, "We (the City Commission) were reminded by a former Mayor (Commissioner McDaniel) of how important of a task you employees have. We greatly appreciate all of you."

Help desk tickets: Opened: 703 Closed: 628 Pending/Open: 75

Human Resources Reports

Kristy Shepard presented the Human Resources Reports. Shepard began, "We have 649 total filled positions." Shepard noted that the Police Department has 17 vacancies. Shepard continued to review the Separation reports. The Separation by Years of Service report indicates that the turnover rate for 2023 is 39% for employees with one to three years of service.

Shepard presented reports related to the City's group health insurance. Shepard remarked, "We are working to find creative ways to not pass along an increase to employees' premiums." Toni Rhinehart commented, "We are very fortunate to not have passed along an increase in the employees' health insurance premiums. Shepard notified the committee of an upcoming "My Cigna" health day in June. The aim of this event is for Cigna representatives to field and answer any group health insurance questions posed by City employees.

Risk Management Reports

Kristy Shepard notified the committee that a claim had been filed for the damage to the Launchbox at Stonebridge Golf.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Green

Mark Green, Recording Secretary