



TO: Mayor Shaun Sipma
Members of the City Council

FROM: Kelly Hendershot, City Attorney

DATE: November 22, 2019

SUBJECT: DISSOLUTION OF CITY'S RECREATION COMMISSION

I. RECOMMENDED ACTION

A. The City Council approve resolution dissolving the City's Recreation Commission.

II. DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSONS

Kelly Hendershot, City Attorney – (701) 857-4755

III. DESCRIPTION

On July 2, 2018, the City Council appointed a committee to formally discuss the topic of consolidating the City's auditorium and recreation departments with the District and make a recommendation to the full City Council. The following individuals were appointed to the committee: Mayor Shaun Sipma; City Manager Tom Barry; Parks Director Ron Merritt; Auditorium/Recreation Director Scott Collins; Park Board Member Perry Olson; and Alderman Paul Pitner. After several meetings and a public hearing, the committee recommended that the City's recreation department merge with the District.

The recommendation to merge the City's auditorium and recreation departments with the District was presented to the City Council and Board of Park Commissioners. Both governing bodies approved motions to merge the departments with the Park District and, after approval of numerous items, the merger occurred. During 2019, through a joint powers agreement, the recreation activities were funded by the City and provided by the Park District.

Because the City had a public recreation system, it has established a recreation commission. Because of the joint powers agreement, per the March 2019 staff recommendation, the City kept the recreation commission intact for 2019. The joint powers agreement, which related to the financing of the recreation activities, was for 2019 and the Park District has appropriately budgeted to take over that responsibility. With that, it is now recommended that the City Council approve the resolution to dissolve the recreation commission, effective December 31, 2019.

IV. IMPACT:

N/A

V. ALTERNATIVES

N/A

VI. TIME CONSTRAINTS

It is recommended that the City Council approve the dissolution prior to 2020.

VII. LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- A. Resolution to Dissolve Recreation Commission