

GO Bond Committee Advisory Committee

October 30, 2024

5:33 Meeting called to order

Chairperson Doug Cowan gave a review of what the committee has done so far.

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Danielle Dupree

Seconded by Terri Mertell

All ayes; no nays

Bill Crandle, Master Developer, gave a presentation on the proposed plans for the Civic/Recreation Center.

- Envisioning a new community
- Investing in our community
- Gave examples of surrounding cities that changed their image/structure
- Civic Centers are important in revitalizing a community
- Need to induce private investment
- Will increase tourism and traffic, quality of life, private investment
- Community Center has a unique draw for all people and families
- Development around the square in the next 10 years
- Multi-family and mixed-use development
- Urban type developments
- Hotels
- Develop allies to art galleries/bistro diners
- Food court gallery
- Refacing and repopulating all the storefronts

Chairperson Doug Cowan then asked direct questions to each committee member and asked them to respond individually.

Do you support this budget?

If yes, why?

If no, what would you be willing to change?

The most commonly supported item was the Justice Center. Some were in support of it at the new total amount and some asked if it could be built in phases.

Parks were also well supported.

Others showed support toward historic buildings, sidewalks, bridges, culverts, and the animal shelter.

The Civic/Rec Center was somewhat divided. Some feel that we need a definite vision of what the purpose of the center will be. If it will be for the community or if it will be to draw people in for sporting tournaments. The tournaments would bring revenue into the City, however, is this proposed center big enough to support large tournaments?

One Committee member is concerned that we are asking for another tax and that citizens are already tight on budgets and could not afford another tax.

The Committee could not agree on \$258M and there is no real consensus on projects. Some would like to eliminate the Civic/Rec Center from the proposed bond amount.

Vice Chairperson GK Callahan suggested the committee meet one more time to finish the conversation as the group needs to be more of a consensus.

All agreed.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, November 6, 2024 at 5:30.

Motion to adjourn made by Kelly Freeland.

Seconded by Shannon Driscoll.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.