City Parks Committee Thursday, July 1st, 2021 @ 1:00pm City Hall, Council Chambers

- 1. Call Meeting to Order
- 2. Review Request from U-Serve regarding payment for lighting at tennis courts. Make recommendation.
- 3. Public Comment
- 4. Adjournment

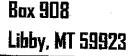
To access this meeting electronically with ZOOM,

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 4042719951

Password: 151041

Posted:

6/23/21





June 18, 2021

Mayor Brent Teske,

We are writing this to encourage you and the Libby City Council to reconsider your responsibility for the power bills and refundable deposit for the Libby Community Tennis and Racket Ball Courts, a facility that is open to the public free of charge.

U Serve Libby, Inc. (a 501 C3 non-profit corp.), with the approval of the City of Libby, initiated the process, including acquiring a grant from the Rotary Club, to bring power into the courts to eventually provide bathrooms and lighted courts for the convenience of those who use the facility.

U Serve, however, does not have funding with which to take on monthly billing. We were unable to have a fund raiser last year due to the pandemic restrictions and our annual fundraiser (Krispy-Kreme sales) goes primarily for court upkeep and maintenance.

Libby Community Courts, in contrast to the Legion Field, is a public facility open to all at no charge. Legion Baseball is sponsored by the American Legion which has support from a national organization and also charges admission for those who come to watch the games. It is not a public facility open to all to use.

For precedence, we checked with Mark Johnson, mayor of Kalispell, who confirmed that the City of Kalispell pays for utilities for all facilities within the city that are open to the public.

Thank you for your "reconsideration."

Sincerely,

David A. Nelson

(President of U Serve)

Gary Dutton

(Treasurer for U Serve



June 22, 2021

Mayor Brent Teske,

After I brought you the letter requesting consideration in covering the power bills for the tennis courts, Gary Dutton talked with Flathead Electric to explain our situation. They were understanding, but also can't wait for the receipt of payment of the power bills, so Gary wrote out a check for \$87 for the first two months. They did say that with the next month's billing, the \$400 deposit will have to be paid. We do not have the funds left to do so. In order to get the power into the courts we exhausted out resources with the following expenses:

Granite Concrete (two vaults)\$1290.00
Master's Touch Electrical (Ron Miller, Meter and panel)
Pival Electric (conduit, ground rods, wire)2550.78
Flathead Electric (transformers, wire and Pulling wire)

Just thought you should see the part U-Serve has played in getting the power to the courts. We were hoping for a grant (we applied for three) to help get bathrooms built too, but did not receive any grant money other than the \$5,000 from Rotary to help get the power in.

Since we do not generate any cash flow other than our annual fund raiser, it is not conceivable for us to cover the monthly power bills.

Since the courts (which were built by a huge community outpouring of help) are on city property and offered without charge to the community and passing tourists, it would make sense for the city to be the ones to make sure the power stays on for future improvements to the site.

Thanks again for your consideration,

David A. Nelson for U-Serve

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