

Ball park to get bleachers

Written by Chris Lee

Holyoke Ball Park will receive a slight facelift once newly purchased bleachers are in place.

Holyoke City Council members were presented with two sets of bleachers to choose from at their Tuesday, Feb. 15 meeting.

The first bid was from Batting Cage Inc. for \$51,948 and the second from BSN Sports for \$49,020.

Council members decided to go with the Batting Cage Inc. bleachers because they were the ones that were used for the GOCO (Great Outdoors Colorado) application. The area under the seat near the feet is completely enclosed, which was the primary concern that put the project in motion.

City Supt. Mark Brown said since the area is completely enclosed near the feet, trash won't become such a big issue as in the past when trash ended up on the ground.

A GOCO grant was applied for and received to cover the cost of the project.

A total of six sets of bleachers were purchased, including four 21-foot and two 15-foot sections. The 15-foot sections will be directly behind home plate with two 21-foot sections on either side of the 15-foot bleachers.

City holds off on purchase of police vehicle

Ball park to get bleachers

Written by Chris Lee

Council members decided there isn't a need right now to purchase a new vehicle for Holyoke Police Department.

Police Chief Phil Biersdorfer presented council members with information on a Ford Explorer at their Jan. 18 meeting. At that time, the council requested other options be researched.

Biersdorfer returned to the Feb. 15 meeting with specs on two Ford Crown Victorias. The first was a 2008 for \$20,400 and the second, a 2009 for \$21,499. Another vehicle, a Dodge Charger, was outside of the department's price range.

Councilman Steve Moore said he feels the department's vehicles are in good shape now and doesn't see a need to replace one of them this year. "Right now we are doing okay with what we have," he added.

Biersdorfer said they will make the current Crown Victoria last a few more years. He mentioned holding off on purchasing a vehicle will leave money to purchase newer radar guns in the future. Three of the current ones are getting pretty old, he added.

Reports of city officials

Council members heard reports from city supt. Mark Brown, police chief Biersdorfer and city attorney Al Wall.

Brown said they are searching for bids for a new trash truck and budgeting \$130,000. Bids on the truck they wanted have gone up to \$140,000 so they are looking at different brands.

Ball park to get bleachers

Written by Chris Lee

Biersdorfer said he received reports of door-to-door salesmen going around Holyoke. The city has an ordinance that does not allow cold call door-to-door salesmen.

City Attorney Al Wall updated the council on the possibility of a dog pound. He said he needs to meet with Brown to decide on locations, sizes and costs and will hopefully have something put together for the council to look at during the next few meetings.

Councilwoman Jessica Cumming reported on behalf of the library committee. She said there are a couple issues regarding internet use at the library. She was told there are a couple individuals who are abusing the internet use time.

The rule states someone may use the computer for 30 minutes at which time they may continue for an additional 30 minutes provided no one is waiting to use it. Library employees are having trouble with individuals staying on the computer past their allotted time limit. Cumming said she requested a policy agreement be drafted for users to sign before using the computer.

Another issue the library board discussed was safety of employees during the weekends. Moving staff around to cover times when only one employee is working was a suggestion offered by the council. Cumming said she will relay the council's thoughts back to the library board.

Other business

In other business Feb. 15, council members:

—approved travel requests for Rich Wittman to attend Hot Line School in Grand Junction and Kathy Olofson to attend CEBT Regional Renewal Meeting in Sterling.

Ball park to get bleachers

Written by Chris Lee

—approved request for one youth summer swim pass be donated to Dragon’s Wagon for their auction at their annual program.

—purchased Sensus Touchread System Upgrade for water department at a cost of \$17,613.03. The system is used to read meters and will also be utilized by the electric department.

—held a 45-minute executive session for a conference with the city attorney.