Monday April 25, 2011 City Council Meeting

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council

From: Dennis J. Bowyer, Parks & Recreation Director

Request:
Consideration of a request to waive the green fees for the 4th annual "Twin Falls Golf Club Fundraiser" for special projects on Saturday July 30th, 2011.

Time Estimate:
None – Consent Calendar

Background:
Last year, the City Council authorized the Golf Advisory Commission to host the 3rd annual fund raising golf tournament to benefit the Twin Falls Golf Club. The Council also waived the green fees for the tournament the previous two years. The tournament has raised over $30,000 the past three years. Improvements at the course consists of: 1) Renovations of tee boxes #10, 13, 16, & 18; 2) new vanities and sinks in both clubhouse restrooms; 3) the planting of seven trees on the course; 4) reseed the fairways twice as part of a three year project and; 5) repairs on some of the cart paths. The Commission and Mike Hamblin dedicated a lot of time and effort to make the last three years tournaments successful.

The Commission is excited to be working on this year's tournament and is optimistic about another success. At their April 13th meeting, the Commission unanimously recommended that the City Council again waive the green fees for this tournament. Proceeds from this year's tournament are to be allocated toward: 1) 3rd year of reseeding; 2) rebuild tee boxes #11, 14, & 17; 3) concrete pad for the driving range; and 4) additional work on the cart paths.

The Commission understands that all these projects may not be able to be completed dependent on the revenue raised from the tournament and will prioritize the projects once the amount of revenue has been finalized.

On Friday March 11th, the Twin Falls Community Foundation Board approved the Commission's request to allow the tournament to use the Community Foundation as a funding mechanism for the tournament. Entry fees and donations channeled through the Foundation will allow sponsors and/or donors a tax credit for their donations.

Approval Process:
City Code does not contain a defined process to waive fees. It has been the City's practice to have the Golf Advisory Commission review these requests and make a recommendation to the Council for final approval. Last year the City Council requested staff to add these annual green fees waiver requests to the Consent Calendar.

Budget Impact:
If the Council approves this request, the City will forgo approximately $1,500 to $2,000 in green fees revenue. The previous three years, an average of 75 people played in this tournament. If the same number of players sign up for this year, the City would be waiving $1,725 in revenue. However, the money raised from the tournament will be spent on needed projects at the golf course thereby reducing the amount of City funds needed to construct the identified improvements in future budget years.

Regulatory Impact:
None

Conclusion:
The Golf Advisory Commission recommends that the Council approve the request to waive the green fees for the 4th annual "Twin Falls Golf Club Fundraiser" for Saturday July 30th, 2011 and that the City uses the funds generated from the tournament for rebuilding tee boxes, repairing cart paths, and install a concrete pad for the driving range.

Attachments:
None