

**ZUMBROTA PARK BOARD SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2020, 6:00 P.M.
ZUMBROTA CITY HALL**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. DISCUSS REOPENING OF THE PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL FOR THE 2020 SEASON**
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT (LIMITED TO 2 MINUTES PER SPEAKER)**
- 4. ADJOURN**

**ZUMBROTA PARK BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY JUNE 15, 2020 6 P.M.
ZUMBROTA CITY HALL
*VIRTUAL MEETING DUE TO PANDEMIC***

PRESENT: Members Fred Raasch (present at City Hall,) Aaron Wichmann (present at City Hall,) Mike Schulte, , Kevin Hein, Mary Goplen, Tina Hostager, Todd Hammel, Public Works Director Mike Olson, City Finance Clerk Miranda Raasch, Kiah Solberg, TJ McBryde, Amber Jentsch, Chelsea Kutschied, Stephan Jennebach, Jaqueline Parker, Anne Solberg, Steph Miller, Mary Nicholson, Reghann LaFrance-Corey, and Tara Plank.

DISCUSS REOPENING OF THE PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL FOR THE 2020 SEASON

The meeting began with the Park Board giving their reasons for deciding to close the pool for the 2020 season with staffing and sanitizing being the main concerns. During the public comment portion, Reghann LaFrance-Corey voiced her disagreement with the decision to close the pool. She stated that the staffing concerns that were mentioned by the Park Board did not add up as she said that she had heard of many lifeguards who were looking for jobs. She felt there was no reason the pool should not open this summer. Council Hostager stated that the pool has never been a money maker and is budgeted for each year. Reghann LaFrance-Corey then reiterated that she is a medical professional who feels there is no medical reason for it not to be open. Raasch reiterated that finances did not play a part in the decision to close the pool, it was just a perk that was mentioned, but it was about being able to have the pool be open safely. He also stated that we were not turning away any lifeguard applicants but most have taken on another job at this point. Council Hammel then asked what the ideal staffing number would be. Solberg then stated somewhere in the low 20's would be ideal. Hammel also clarified that the additional staff member needed for cleaning does not need to be a lifeguard. Tara Plank asked if the lifeguards that have found another job had been notified the pool would be open. Solberg confirmed she had reached out to everyone and only 6 lifeguards were available for full time employment and 4 for part time. Reghann LaFrance-Corey suggested changing the

hours of operation to accommodate staffing needs. She also questioned the reason for the special meeting as she felt the boards minds were already made up. Wichmann stated that the reason for this meeting was to inform the community as to why they came to the original decision of closing the pool but they were still open to changing their minds after hearing from the community. Jackie Parker stated that each family should be responsible for maintaining proper social distancing, not the lifeguards. Raasch then asked if children should be required to have an adult with them to help ensure children are following the guidelines. Wichmann stated that the guidelines from the CDC state that you need to have a designated "COVID watcher," signage and the honor system would not suffice. Chelsea Kutschied voiced her support in opening the pool. She mentioned that reaching out to other communities may help in finding lifeguards. Steph Miller stated that she is a health care professional and felt the CDC guidelines did not seem hard to follow and that the guidelines did not add that much in addition to their work. She suggested removing the chairs to help lessen disinfecting. She stated that if the pool were to open this year, more people would be in support of a new pool later on and has a hard time supporting other community pools. Reghann LaFrance-Corey mentioned that we should seek members of the community to assist in implementing the CDC guidelines. She even felt volunteers could be sought out. Council Hostager asked if it would be feasible to be open according to what staff can work rather than trying to fill all of the "usual" shifts. The park board felt this would be reasonable to accommodate if needed and will take into consideration. Schulte stated that he would like all guidelines to be followed if the pool were to be opened this year. Tara Plank then asked if any advertising had been done to attract any more lifeguards. Solberg responded with saying advertisement had only been done prior to the season due to the uncertainty of the situation. Once the pandemic happened and restrictions were placed, advertisement ceased.

MOTION Raasch, second Hein to open the pool if all guidelines could be met with the understanding that if they cannot be met, the pool will not open. The Park Board would like an advertisement to be put out for a Health & Safety Attendant(s.)

MOTION Hein, second Schulte to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 PM. Carried unanimously.