

Process for Golf Course Renovation Planning

Golf Course Renovation: Plans for this major capital expenditure may (at-the-very-least) include green renovations and replacement of the irrigation system of this 35-year-old facility. A budget request was included in the 2009/10 budget for the first consulting services to provide a business plan for renovation.

Preliminary Planning: Following review of proposals and interviews with five candidates for the consulting services, the Superintendent, Finance Officer, Course Manager, and Town manager scheduled (along with the Recreation Advisory Committee) an opportunity for the two “finalist” park renovation consultants to present a short review of their services at a community meeting in June 2009. The Mayor gave a brief summary of the need for planning renovations for our golf course and introduced the two candidates to the audience. The meeting allowed the public to hear the presentations and ask questions of the consultants. At the June Council meeting, the Town Council selected Richard Mandell to prepare a Renovation Business Plan for Jamestown Golf Course.

Golf Course Survey: We developed a survey (in house) and offered golfers an opportunity to rate and describe likes and dislikes. We gathered some valuable demographic information and hope that suggestions and observations will help us not only in our design process, but in service and maintenance areas as well. Survey results are available online on the homepage of the town website www.jamestown-nc.gov Survey data was analyzed (compliments of Ray Pifer, Meaningful Analytics).

Golf Course Renovation Committee: The Town Council appointed 11 citizens as members of the Golf Course Renovation Advisory Committee. The committee met for two extended meetings in August/September to tour the golf course with Richard Mandell (RMGA) and will work with the consultant and staff in the process over the coming months.

Next Steps:

Draft Plan: Consultant (Richard Mandell) is preparing a draft of his business plan report. The report prepared by RMGA will include the following:

(summarized)

“Specific renovation modifications and solutions to problems identified during meetings, walkthroughs, and survey information. The plan shall include all designed features including, but not limited to: tee and green locations and shapes, sand bunkers, water features and other hazard locations and shapes where applicable. In addition will be proposed fairway shaping, tree clearing, and other vital design suggestions.”

“A tabular listing of each individual proposed task with supporting justification.”

Also:

“A hole-by-hole narrative of all eighteen holes as well as practice facilities. A tabulated narrative discussion of existing conditions that warrant renovation solutions will be included. The recommendations and discussion will also include specific maintenance and playability issues on a hole basis and a discussion regarding each hole’s strategic merit.”

“The Renovation Business Plan Report will also include specific chapters (if applicable) regarding general maintenance practices, course set-up, irrigation, discussions regarding trees and rough, turf quality, grassing, and grass heights, greens, playability, strategy, speed of play, and other design specific issues.”

“as part of the renovation Business Plan report, RMGA will include a report regarding construction of the proposed modifications to the facilities. This will include a discussion and analysis of proper phasing of construction tasks and construction phasing options to consider.”

“Accompanying the phasing discussion will be construction estimates applicable to each phasing option presented to the Town.”

Staff will meet with RMGA to review the first draft. Meetings with the Advisory Committee, the public, and finally the Town Council to present and discuss the report will take place during the winter months of 2010.

The Town Council will ultimately make the decision to move forward with a renovation and provide a funding plan as well as a timeline for bidding and construction.

We appreciate the JGA support over the years and invite the members to continue to provide in-put in to this important planning process.