

**LAWRENCEBURG
COMMON COUNCIL/BOARD OF WORKS
WORK SESSION
January 4, 2017
5:00 p.m.**

Kelly Mollaun, Presiding Officer
Members: Paul Seymour Jr., Tony Abbott, Aaron Cook,
Mel Davis, Randy Abner
Board of Works Members: Paul Seymour Jr., Allen Callaway
Olin Clawson, Utility Director
Delmar D. Weldon III, City Attorney
Tyler Rainey, Clerk Treasurer

CALL TO ORDER

FOR DISCUSSION:

- **Speedway RFP**

Mayor Mollaun stated that the purpose of this work session is to get the Request for Proposal advertised. He asked the board if they had any questions.

Council Member Paul Seymour Jr. said that he had some questions regarding the conduct of business on the Requests for Proposal Invitation. He mentioned that the city has a lot of money into the racetrack and he has heard feedback from the public that they would like to see events that last 2-3 days. He stated that the facility is the 5th best in the country and that it is underutilized. He stated that he has heard that the Florence Speedway in Kentucky hosts 2-3 day events and that they are very large events. Paul Seymour Jr. said that he would like to see events like these to take place and for visitors to come and stay in the city.

Dave Rudisell approached the podium and said that he understands the want for these events but the Lawrenceburg Speedway does not have the capacity. Mr. Rudisell stated that the Florence Speedway has three times the amount of seating than the city's facility. He said that they hosted an event this past summer, and had one of their largest crowds with about 6,000 guests. He said the facility seats about 5,000. Mr. Rudisell stated that during this event there was standing room only. He mentioned that the speedway does not have proper restrooms for this amount of attendees. He also stated that financially it doesn't work. He mentioned that the multi-day event would also mean that they would need big payouts and big purses for the races. He said that with the cost of hosting the show at the facility, it would not be financially possible. Mrs. Kim Rudisell approached the podium and said that they seat around 4,000 attendees comfortably. She also mentioned that they utilize portalets weekly and have spent approximately \$7,000.00 on renting them for their events.

Mario Todd asked Mr. Rudisell what would be necessary 'infrastructure-wise' to make these 2-3 day events possible. Mr. Rudisell said that they would require more parking, and a way to

regulate entrances. He also said that the Antique Market hosts shows the first weekend of every month in the summer, so they would need to see if a 2-3 day event is even possible with their schedule. He also said that the speedway shuts down during Fall Fest so he is unsure of how they would be able to do 3 day events. Mr. Rudisell said that from experience with 2 day events he has found that visitors typically pick and choose what event to go to. He said that they do not usually have folks come to both events. Mrs. Kim Rudisell stated that they are having a large amount of visitors from over 100 miles away. She said that pre-sale tickets have been sold to people in 32 states and 11 countries. She stated that 50% of visitors are coming from out of town. Mr. Rudisell also said that they have tried to do these multiple day shows but they cost a lot of money. He said that one club that comes in for races is the USAC (United States Auto Club) and to bring them to the speedway costs around \$50,000.00 alone. Mr. Rudisell said that Lawrenceburg Speedway has paid the City of Lawrenceburg over \$1,000,000.00 over the years for use of the speedway. He said that they pay approximately \$70,000.00 a year.

Council Member Mel Davis asked if improving the electric system for RV's would help. Mr. Rudisell responded that the RV's take up a lot of room. Mario Todd mentioned that most raceways do not have access for RV's and that it is not a 'norm' for these types of facilities. Mr. Todd also mentioned that the old Hollywood Casino parking lot is currently vacant so that could be looked into as additional parking. He also stated that temporary paneling might be possible for fencing in the areas around the speedway.

Mr. Rudisell stated that he would like the Board to be aware that with other proposal's coming in, that they should be aware that scheduling is a large part of making the speedway work, especially if 2-3 day events are something that the Board wants to take place.

City Attorney Del Weldon asked what would be necessary to look into these weekend events. Mr. Rudisell said he would like to get together with the Boards and try to find a way to make them happen and see what weekends are available especially with folks reserving Agner Hall. He stated that when an event is happening and Agner Hall is reserved, they lose about half of the parking. He said he would like to collaborate and see what will work. Mrs. Rudisell stated that they have been renting the speedway for over 10 years and they want continue to work with the city.

Mr. Seymour Jr. asked about the submissions for the proposals. He asked if everyone that submits a proposal will get an opportunity to present. Mayor Mollaun stated yes and that all of the proposals will be put in the packets first to review and then the bidders will present. Mr. Seymour also asked how the bids would be advertised. Mayor Mollaun said that council will decide on where to advertise the RFP.

Board of Works member Allen Callaway asked about wording on the Request of Proposal invitation. He asked if the wording could be corrected because it states that the bidder must 'Guarantee 20 weekends a year'. He asked that it be fixed to include a phrase explaining inclement weather. Mr. Del Weldon stated that when the contract itself is signed with the vendor that the contract will have the corrected wording.

- **Resolution for Alternative Method of Disposal by RFP**

City Attorney Del Weldon stated that the resolution was required by statute and it was for informational purposes. He said that the resolution described as an alternative method of disposal and that the normal bidding process would not be applicable for this Request for Proposal.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion: Mel Davis Second: Tony Abbott

Motion carried.