



**Golf Board Meeting
Work Session Minutes
Thursday, September 22, 2022**

The Piqua Golf Board met at 12 pm at Echo Hills Golf Course located at 2100 Echo Lake Drive, Piqua. Present were ERS Director Amy Welker, Golf Manager Patrick Kirkland, Administrative Assistant Melissa Kinney and the following board members: JD Denson, Brian Deal and Gene Hill.

- Amy began the meeting by asking the board about rotating the time and frequency of these meetings going forward. Everyone agreed that monthly is not necessary currently and that alternating the time may allow other members to attend as well. So the meetings will be held every other month and in the afternoon at 4 pm in the near future.
- Amy provided a final draft of the Chapter 94 Golf Fees to everyone, as the deadline to present it to the City Commission is near. Everyone agreed that the language updates and changes are good. JD asked about offering the Weekday Membership Special. Patrick would like to table this for now due to the golf cart shortages. He would like to look at it as a possible option in 2024. Patrick would like to create more value for golf members in the future, such as putting a cap in place for how many members there can be, members getting discounts such as 10% off merchandise, and members having the capability to book online tee times 2 weeks in advance. He also recommended offering an unlimited plan with golf cart usage included in the future. Patrick also suggested that a “No Show” fee be implemented for online bookings. There was a unanimous consensus on the proposed fee table.
- The board briefly discussed what requirements would be for golfers participating in tournaments at the course. In the past it was always for members only, but the board may consider opening up some tournaments to other golfers as well. JD noted that the GHIN issue needs resolved as well for next year. He is going to meet with Patrick soon to discuss further.
- Amy reviewed the 2023 Draft Budget with the group. Some budget items include restroom upgrades, kitchen upgrades, a new sound system for outdoor use, patio upgrades, blinds or tinting for windows, and new golf carts. Kirt would like to aerify the course twice per year instead of once, and everyone agreed that was best. Amy also budgeted for path paving, perhaps adding new areas also and for nuisance animals like muskrats and geese. Also included in the budget is funds for a permanent fix for the drainage problem on the course and funding for new mowers.
- Amy announced that a Request for Proposals has been issued for the 2023 golf season. This RFP is seeking candidates to manage the course in 2023. The current consultant Hampton Golf will most likely be one of those candidates. Amy stated that there are several benefits to having a professional consultant, including usage of an expert in the golf industry, better

pricing on merchandise and lessening the burden of hiring employees. She assured the board that the City will still have final say and key involvement with the golf course while utilizing this professional management.

- Finally, Amy said that in the next few years, we will need to begin a succession plan for when Kirt retires.