Notes from CSA34 Community Meeting

March 16, 2016

Questions and answers contained herein are reflective of the discussion that took place and are not meant to be a word-for-word transcript of the discussion.

Q: How much is it going to cost me? Why can't it be repaired cheaper than rebuilding it? A: Repair is technically cheaper. The numbers provided are estimates based upon professional opinion of the work that would be required for each option as described.

Q: Where is the leak?

A: Locating the leak was not part of the evaluation of the pool. Testing to find the leak is "destructive."

Q: How much money does the pool bring in?

A: In addition to the special assessment and the portion of property taxes of parcels within the CSA boundaries, the pool brings in about \$8,000 per year from gate fees and interest.

Q: Did you perform an economic analysis?

A: No. An economic analysis was not part of the evaluation of the pool.

Q: Was any consideration/analysis given or done for privatization of pool?

A: No. This type of analysis was not part of the evaluation of the pool. However, the public is welcome to explore options for a privately funded pool.

Q: Is there a limit that brings in a mandate to bring the pool up to current code?

A: Performing the construction necessary to "repair" the pool will necessitate compliance with current building codes.

Q: Basically by going in and repairing it, we have to bring the pool up to standards? A: That's correct.

Q: Several parts of the report say that the pool is not up to USA Swimming Regulations. That is not true. The report says the swim lanes need to be widened and that the pool is not deep enough. According to regulations, 4 feet is the minimum depth required for diving blocks. Why isn't it correct? A: The report reflects the professional opinion of the engineering firm.

NOTE: While at the meeting, the engineering firm representatives were given typewritten comments regarding USA Swimming Regulations. The engineering firm has prepared a response to the typewritten comments. The response, which includes images from the typewritten comments, can be viewed here.

Q: Has any consideration been given to alternatives on demolition options? Use of free labor, etc. A: If the decision to demolish the pool is made, County will look at all legally permissible options for performing the demolition and remediation of the site in the most cost effective manner possible.

Q: I think that the costs are too high.

A: You're right, all of the estimates are higher than a private citizen would pay for similar work. As a government agency, the County must meet specific state standards, which means that performing the work is expensive.

Q: An interesting alternative is to look at a private pool. If we looked at getting a private pool, could the County help facilitate financing it? In other words: Could we use the assessment dollars if they continued to subsidize a pool for Gridley?

A: County will have to look into the CSA guidelines to provide an answer.

Q: Could bonds be used to fund a pool?

A: Possibly, it depends.

Q: When is a vote required to use CSA funds?

A: The only time a vote is required is when an increase to the assessment is proposed.

Q: Who is responsible for the pool?

A: County is the administrator of the funds. County contracts with the Fair for maintenance.

Q: If the CSA feedback is to let the pool go away: Do we need a vote to let it go away?

A: There would not be a vote. Demolition and remediation of the site would take place and the CSA would be dissolved once all associated costs were paid.

Q: Is there a law that states one way or the other that we have to do a vote?

A: A vote is only required in order to increase the assessment. The process to determine if an increase will be voted on is to hold a public hearing. If more than half of the land owners in the CSA protest voting for the increase (in person or in writing) a vote will not take place. If less than half the land owners in the CSA protest, then a vote will occur.

Q: Who would write the verbiage on the ballots/letters that would go out? Can Pros/Cons be included?

A: County will look into regulations regarding the language on the ballots. The public is welcome to support or oppose an increase to the assessment through any method they choose.

Q: If the CSA votes to raise the assessment, does the amount go on a different vote or is it dictated on the first vote?

A: The amount of the increase would be included on the ballot. There is a process to go through to reach that number.

Q: Would we vote on a maximum and then go up to that amount only if needed based on actual costs?

A: That is correct.

Q: When can we expect the public hearing process to begin?

A: Approximately 4-5 months.