

Town of Ridgefield – Golf Committee Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting

Town Hall Small Conference Room

October. 17, 2024

7:30 PM

Unapproved

Present: Mr. Tyrrell, Mr. Mr. Ippoliti, Mr. Colamaria, Mr. Mischenko, Mr. Gherardi, Dr. Mindich, Mr. Desrosier (alt)

Absent: Ms. Potter

Public: None

Staff Present: Golf Director and General Manager: Mr. Sergiovanni

7:30 - Meeting called to order.

Minutes from 09/18/2024 were approved. Motion made by Mr. Colamaria and seconded by Mr. Ippoliti. All were in favor.

Public Comment

N/A

Update from Mr. Sergiovanni

Financials:

The course was open for thirty straight days in September. Revenues for this fiscal year are back on track.

Course:

The 17th tee replacement project has begun, and a temporary tee has been but in place in front of the cart path. A message was sent to the entire email database making golfers aware of this project. The tee will be sodded and there is full expectation that the tee will be open by May 1st, 2025.

As the weather gets colder, the irrigation system will need to be blown out.

The greens will be aerated in late November and filled in with sand. They should not grow in during the winter but will do so in early spring preventing the need to aerate in in March or April.

Discussion on whether to amend Golf Committee Charge

Mr. Tyrrell proposed a new charge as it relates to the Golf Committee's duties and responsibilities. (See attached.) Based on research by the Town Clerk, the existing charge that appears on the Town's website is substantially the same as it was when the golf course was established in 1974.

The committee agreed that we'll review this new charge and potentially vote to approve it at the next meeting. Once approved, the Committee will present the charge to the First Selectperson for action.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Dr. Mindich and Mr. Mischenko raised the issue of poor cell service and the inability to call 911, should there be a medical emergency, from many locations on the golf course. Mr. Sergiovanni confirmed that the RFP for the cart leasing program will contain an option for the golf carts to communicate back to the pro-shop who would then call 911 in an emergency. He will determine if this feature is financially feasible.

8:53 - A motion to adjourn meeting was made by Mr. Gherardi and seconded by Mr. Ippoliti. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Attachment

Proposed new charge for discussion.

1. The Golf Committee is appointed by the Board of Selectpersons and reports to that body from time to time. It will act as the Selectperson's agent in matters related to the Ridgefield Golf Course and its operation. The Committee shall each January 1st, from among themselves appoint a Committee Chairperson, Vice-chairperson, and a Secretary. As needed at other times, the Committee will appoint sub-committees deemed necessary for proper operation of the course.

2. The General Manager will establish annual operating, capital, and maintenance budgets based on guidance from the First Selectperson and Finance Director, with the goal of maintaining the course and physical plant in proper working order. These budgets will be presented to the Committee for discussion prior to submission to the

Board of Selectpersons as part of their annual budget submission to the Board of Finance.

Financial records will be maintained in accordance with the methods developed by the Town Controller and approved by the First Selectperson.

3. At each year's December meeting, the General Manager will propose a fee schedule for the next golf season. The goals of the fee schedule are to maintain the quality of the course, while ensuring the course is substantially self-supporting with preferred fees being offered to the residents of the Town of Ridgefield.

4. The Golf Committee will act as the eyes and ears of the Board of Selectpersons and bring issues to the Committee for discussion with the General Manager.

5. At its January meeting each year, the Committee will discuss whether its Charge needs updating.