

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 14, 1981

SWIMMING FEES
AMENDED

RES. NO. 81-73

City Manager Graves introduced agenda item "k" - "Proposed change in swimming ticket fees and policies". Council was then apprised that in the past the City of Lodi, for the purpose of giving families an opportunity to swim at reduced rates, instigated a family and single ticket type of program. Prices were set at \$20 for a family ticket, regardless of how many people were in the immediate family, and \$10 for a single ticket. This would allow the user to use any one of four facilities at Blakely Pool, Tokay High Pool, Lodi High Pool, and Lodi Lake. The City has known for many years that this program has been abused by the ticket purchaser. Staff recommended that the fees be amended by selling books of tickets with 20 swim tickets for youths (age 16 and under) at \$3.50 and books of tickets with 20 swim tickets for \$7.50 (approximately 90 days).

A lengthy discussion followed with questions being directed to the City Manager and to Mr. Ed DeBenedetti who was present in the audience. City Clerk Reimche presented a letter from Patricia A. Hanks, 1325 Deerfield Court, Lodi, asking that Council reconsider the proposed rate increase

and provide a swimming pass affordable to all people.

Following additional discussion, on motion of Councilman Hughes, Katnich second, Council adopted Resolution No. 81-73 establishing amended swimming fees as heretofore set forth.

TO THE CITY COUNCIL
FROM THE CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

DATE
May 12, 1981

NO.

SUBJECT: SUGGESTED CHANGE IN SWIMMING TICKET FEES AND POLICIES

In the past the City of Lodi, for the purpose of giving families an opportunity to swim at reduced rates, instigated a family and single ticket type of program. Prices were set at \$20 for a family ticket, regardless of how many people were in the immediate family, and \$10 for a single ticket. This would allow the user to use any one of four facilities at Blakely Pool, Tokay High Pool, Lodi High Pool, and Lodi Lake.

We have known for many years that this program has been abused by the ticket purchaser. The abuse ran the gamut of many problems -- some falsifying members of the family by including cousins, neighbors, by passing family tickets on to someone else when not using them, or passing them through the fence at the pool so someone else could use them, splitting the cost of the ticket with another family, etc. There have been abuses too numerous to mention.

We are not necessarily looking at a method of making more money but at a method of controlling the abuse. We feel that this is very important.

It would be the recommendation of the Recreation and Parks Department, therefore, that books of tickets, with 20 tickets to a book, be sold for \$3.50 per book. These books could be sold at the various pools as well as through the Recreation and Parks Department office. This would mean that every user would have a ticket when they come to a facility or they would have to pay the regular admission price.

The present pool prices are 50¢ for youth 16 and under and 75¢ for adults. A youth could buy a book of tickets for \$3.50, which means he or she would actually be swimming for 17½¢.

The adult book of tickets would cost \$7.50, which is half price as compared to the general admission. This could mean that the City might actually take in less revenue than before, but it would give us better control.

The Commission for Recreation and Parks has a theory that since the pools at the present time are not being used anywhere near capacity, maybe this would be an incentive to get more people into the pools and keep them out of canals and rivers.

Yet, to a family with three children who swim a considerable amount of time, it actually means an increase in cost to them. For example, if one child were to swim 60 days of the year, it would cost that family \$10.50 per child. A family of three could swim 60 days for \$31.50 as compared to \$20.00 in the past. The cost for the family would escalate with the number of swims, of

SUBJECT: INCREASED SWIMMING TICKET FEES

course, but 60 swims for three children for \$31.50 is fair as most cities around us charge at least \$30.00 for a family ticket.

The Commission for Recreation and Parks has been discussing this problem for several years, and to be very honest with the Council, we do not know what the solution is. We have looked at many different aspects. We still feel it is important to give people an opportunity to swim. Swimming pools are a loser at best; it is just a question of how much.

We would like to try this method for one year to see where it takes us. We can discuss methods and there are many, all of which have good points and bad points. Hopefully, this method as suggested above will solve some of our problems without being a total financial failure.



Ed DeBenedetti, Director
Recreation and Parks Dept.

clear

RESOLUTION NO. 81-73

RESOLUTION AMENDING LODI RECREATION AND PARKS
DEPARTMENT SWIMMING TICKET FEES

RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Lodi does hereby set the following fees for Lodi Recreation and Parks Department swimming tickets:

Youth	20 swims for \$3.50 (age 16 and under)
Adults	20 swims for \$7.50 (approximately 90 days)

Dated: June 17, 1981

I hereby certify that Resolution No. 81-73 was passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Lodi in a regular meeting held June 17, 1981 by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmen - Katnich, Hughes and McCarty

Noes: Councilmen - None

Absent: Councilmen - Murphy and Pinkerton

Alice M. Reimche
Alice M. Reimche
City Clerk

CITY COUNCIL

JAMES A. McCARTY, Mayor
ROBERT G. MURPHY, Mayor Pro Tem
RICHARD L. HUGHES
WALTER KATNICH
JAMES W. PINKERTON, Jr.

CITY OF LODI

CITY HALL, 221 WEST PINE STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 320
LODI, CALIFORNIA 95241
(209) 334-5634

HENRY A. CLAVES, Jr.
City Manager

ALICE M. REIMCHE
City Clerk

RONALD M. STEIN
City Attorney

July 17, 1981

Mr. Rick Sweat
Vice-President
Sports Advisory Board
263 Mulberry Cr.
Lodi, CA 95240

Gentlemen:

Please be advised that your June 29, 1981 letter was presented to the Lodi City Council at its regular meeting of July 1, 1981. The letter was read in its entirety to the Council and was duly noted by the Council.

Should you have any questions regarding Council's receipt of this information, please feel free to call this office.

Very truly yours,


Alice M. Reimche
City Clerk

AR:dg

June 29, 1981

TO CITY COUNCIL:

On behalf of the active softball community of Lodi we the SPORTS ADVISORY BOARD respectfully submit this letter of information and request.

As duly elected officials representing 5,000 participating players and coaches, we carry a message of concern to our councilmen.

For years our community's softball growth has been minimized due to the lack of playing facilities. We are keenly aware of the budget crisis created with the passage of Proposition 13 and the restrictions imposed on spending. However, a master plan for softball facilities in the immediate area could be implemented with construction of the capital portions done in yearly phases to ease the money burden. At present our Recreation Department has to turn away teams vying for placement in the adult league, and those fortunate to get in are forced to play on an 8 1/2 day rotation schedule.

Further, with the increasing popularity of softball, the sheer size of the Lodi league, and the large economic impact on the community from softball, the time has come for permanent leadership in the form of a professional recreator to stabilize the program.

Our program in the past has been run by part-time personnel without input to budgetary considerations and administered to by the Director of Parks and Recreation whose calendar is already booked solid with summer commitments.

We, as a board, consider the most pressing of the issues to be the procurement of a Recreation Supervisor. Without continuity of leadership our board loses its impact and our program will continue in limbo.

TO CITY COUNCIL - continued

Page 2

Please accept this letter in the light for which it is intended. We the SPORTS ADVISORY BOARD of 10 members do in fact speak for the majority of the 5,000 registered softball players in our community and were so elected to act as a liason between them and the agencies who govern us all.

Thank you so much for your valuable time in this matter.

YOURS IN SPORTS,

10 MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

WILLIAM CREE, PRESIDENT

RICK SWEAT, VICE PRESIDENT

RONALD SANCHEZ

RONALD WILLIAMS

LARRY MILLER

RANDY GOMES

CHRIS NEWBOLD

JOHN SYPNIESKY

MIKE FLETCHER

SKIP EHLERS