

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. C(6)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT MEETING DATE: November 18, 2008

TITLE: Request to Approve the IPWG Guiding Principles Governing Community Use of School Facilities for Recreation

DEPARTMENT: Town Manager	PUBLIC HEARING: YES/NO
ATTACHMENTS: A. Resolution B. Memorandum from Commissioners Alice Gordon and Barry Jacobs	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Steve Stewart – 918-7315

PURPOSE

The purpose of this agenda item is for the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to review the memorandum concerning guiding principles governing community use of school facilities for recreation and support the Intergovernmental Parks Work Group (IPWG) in re-examining current policies. The town staff recommends the Board adopt the attached resolution.

INFORMATION

At various IPWG meetings, the group discussed the issue of whether additional community use of school facilities for recreation can and should be achieved. Because of the complexity and impact of this issue the group is proposing to re-examine and forward recommendations to the elected boards for support.

The Recreation and Parks Commission discussed this request at their monthly meeting on November 3, 2008. They are in support of the request from the IPWG with the following recommendations:

- Key Issue # 5 – Request a second level of priority for public recreation programs. Student activities encompass the first priority level.
- Key Issue #8 – Emphasize the importance of more access to school facilities that are often gated and closed.
- Key Issue # 9 – Emphasize the importance of having a process that governs general facility usage and if necessary more specific criteria that can be used from school to school.

Town staff also wanted to add additional language to Key Issue # 9 - Every effort be made to maintain effective communication and coordination between municipalities and the school system.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board adopt the attached resolution.