

Town of Munster

Department of Parks and Recreation

Board Report Summary

May 20, 2025

Director/Administration

- Gas Header Work nearing completion; necessary replacements made to broken lines impacting gas capture near golf course and dog park.
- Landfill Gas-to-Energy Generator is operational with minor outstanding issues.
- Centennial Park 2025 pay-to-park program ongoing; over 9,300 license plates reviewed.
- Clubhouse redevelopment continues; next study session June 3. Staff coordinating demolition preparations.
- West Lakes Park restroom design approval on agenda.
- Briar Creek Park Playground replacement underway; expected completion in two weeks.
- Cost analysis received for Cobblestones Park pickleball court conversion and parking addition.
- Fisher St. Trail estimates received; repaving likely delayed until 2026 pending funding and coordination.
- Gariup is apparent low bidder for Bridges over Ditches project; completion likely in 2026.
- Substantial cuts to the 2026, 2027, and 2028 budgets are highly likely; fee increases under consideration.
- Golf Course Management and concession contracts expiring in 2025 and 2026; RFP may be pursued.

Recreation

- Summer program registration is active.
- Staff attended IPRA webinar and Chamber luncheon.
- Staff appeared on WJOB radio (April 22 and May 14).
- Summer Intern starts May 19; orientation includes training and CPR certification.
- 661 pool season passes sold by May 9 early bird deadline.
- Pool staff training scheduled May 19–20 with 63 staff (37 returning, 26 new).
- Summer Camp training May 19–20. 11 CPR certifications completed. Bus transportation to pool is being coordinated.
- Spring Tennis is active; youth classes are full.
- Spring soccer ends May 17; 7 referees, 40 teams, 455 players and 69 coaches.
- Car Show (May 3) and Cash for Clutter events successful with high turnout.
- Pool Pride Day supported by 10 volunteers.
- Social Center Rentals total 40 through April.

Financial Summary

- Total revenue: \$45,614.96
- Total expenses: \$19,959.64
- Total net: \$25,655.32

Park Maintenance

- In addition to daily trash pickup, bathroom cleaning, Social Center set up, gas plant monitoring/maintenance and leachate pump operation/recording, the following tasks were completed;
- The pool was cleaned and filled.
- Broken pipe repaired under Monon fountain; fountain cleaned and started.
- Multiple irrigation lines repaired throughout Centennial; filled ruts and electric line trench and seeded.
- All parks mowed, flowers planted, mulch spread.
- Dead trees along the Pennsy cut down; damaged trees in parks trimmed.
- Trees delivered and holes dug for Arbor Day festivities.
- Irrigation turned on at ballfields and West Lakes Park.
- Eight soccer fields striped weekly.
- Event banners installed and new signage posted.
- Hiring seasonal staff ongoing; four hired so far.

Centennial Park Golf Course

- April weather challenging for the grounds;
- Methane work has proven difficult; required course reroutes.
- Irrigation system issues have been numerous and ongoing and addressed with in-house repairs.
- Three new grounds staff trained; ongoing cross-training.
- New tee marker design by Munster High student implemented.
- Audubon project: 92 bird species recorded; recycling initiatives continue.
- Pro shop merchandise sales steady; kitchen marketing in progress.
- Proposals in development for range heaters, lights, and outdoor TV.
- Recycling of aluminum cans and cardboard continue to move the facility Audubon certified.

Centennial Golf Statistics

- April 2025 vs. April 2024:
- Member Rounds: 611 (↓)
- Public Rounds: 889 (↑)
- Green Fees: \$13,640 (↑)
- Range Fees: \$7,442 (↑)
- Cart Fees: \$5,979 (↑)