



## SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE

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### **SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Committee Date: January 18, 2024  
Present: Mayor Pulice, Treasurer Porch, Alderman Messina,  
Alderman Woods  
Absent:  
Also Present: Janelle Silva  
Meeting Convened at: 7:02 p.m.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

1. Treasurer Sandra Porch
2. Alderman Messina

#### **DISCUSSION:**

The Committee met for an abbreviated meeting to discuss newly received information on the increased cost for the Gin Blossoms as a Friday night headliner at Prairie Fest. EMG, indicated that there would be possible additional costs from the original estimate for Gin Blossoms provided. This is because bands base their performances on two different fee sets. One is the normal performance fee when a tour is routed and strategically planned. Two, is an isolated performance, which is a location and dates that is outside the planned route. This could be for example, an accommodation to perform in a separate state than they are already in (potentially requiring flights, expedited travel, etc). The second option is referred to as a "one-off". It is not uncommon for there to be a \$15-20k difference between the two fee sets.

EMG is reaching out to the Gin Blossoms management to get a better idea of what the "isolated performance" costs may be to host Gin Blossoms on Friday night of Prairie Fest. That said, it's possible the cost for Musical Entertainment including the Gin Blossoms could total around \$140-150k. Janelle asked the Committee if they wanted to increase the entertainment funds by an additional \$20k to accommodate this potential increased performance fee.

After much discussion the voting Committee members decided that adding a band such as the Gin Blossoms would help test the theory of whether a more expensive band, versus a less expensive band would increase attendance and sponsorships of Prairie Fest. Janelle indicated that this was not advisable and shared a statement by EMG stating: *"We have not heard from the Gin Blossoms. I suspect it is because they know, by our numerous emails, that Wood Dale is undecided if they want the band or can afford the band. Their management is probably waiting to see if we put in a formal offer. At this point they might have reservations about considering Prairie Fest. That is why we stressed the*



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*importance of the council deciding how much your total budget would be. At the Gin Blossoms one-off price, the total fest budget would need to be 145K. At their standard price, the total fest budget would need to be 130K. Depending on what total budget the council arrives at, will determine how much we can offer the Gin Blossoms, within that spread. All of this does not guarantee that they will accept any formal offer at any price.”*

The Committee also discussed concern about the band line up, should the Gin Blossoms not be available. They reviewed the General National Band sheet provided by EMG and would consider Hoobastank, Alien Ant Farm, Smash Mouth (although it was noted that the lead singer recently passed). A motion was made by Alderman Messina and seconded by Alderman Woods to increase the funds by \$30k bringing the total musical entertainment budget to \$150K. This was passed and will be brought to the Council for approval. The Committee voted and requested Janelle to ask the Council for an additional \$30k.

The Committee also discussed the need for a Saturday night headliner as Radio Gaga part of the original suggested lineup was no longer available, as they chose to perform in another community because our confirmation was delayed. EMG offered two bands that are within the same scope of success as Radion Gaga, these were Wedding Banned and Rod Tuffcurls & The Benchpress. The Committee reviewed some of their videos and did not feel they were a strong draw for Saturday night at Prairie Fest. They requested that Janelle ask EMG if 7<sup>th</sup> Heaven could play on Saturday instead of Sunday and potentially fill the Sunday spot with a band recommended by Alderman Woods, Focal Point. Janelle stated that she would reach back out to EMG.

A motion was made by Alderman Messina and seconded by Treasurer Porch to adjourn.

Ayes: Mayor Pulice, Alderman Woods, Alderman Messina, Treasurer Porch.

Nays: None

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Whereupon Mayor Pulice declared the motion to be carried out and the meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.