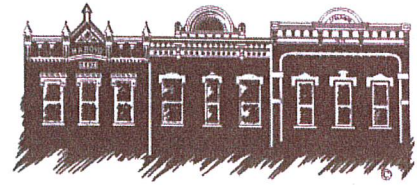


CITY OF MORRISON

200 West Main Street
Morrison, Illinois 61270-2400
Phone 815 / 772-7657
Fax 815 / 772-4291
morrisonil.org



Scott D. Vandermyde
Mayor

This paper and the accompanying illustration attempt to articulate the choices that need to be made with regard to the Sports Complex.

Here are five “prongs” to consider as a proposed starting point. No one is expected to agree with every statement in these prongs. They are intended to provoke thought about needs and priorities and the order in which they should be addressed.

1. The fields don’t drain properly and sooner or later, people are going to stop coming because the fields are unplayable. So don’t put any more money into lime and other materials. Don’t put any more money into buildings and services (concession stand, sheds, etc.). The first thing we do is make it such that all five diamonds and the football field drain properly. That way, people will want to play there.
2. Regardless of the condition of the fields, people will come if there are amenities. Spend the money to really make the concession stand useful and attractive. Build a shed that is adequate for storage of equipment and accessories, etc.
3. School District. Terms of a lease or other property use agreement may or may not include serious work related to drainage. Operation of concessions may be a concern in such an agreement as well. Do you work on the drainage and/or the buildings and services while the agreement is being negotiated? Or do you negotiate terms first and finalize the usage agreement? Do you limit property use agreements to the School District or should other parties be courted, e.g., tournament operators?
4. Tournaments. Do we want to aggressively court tournaments? If so, should they be “outsourced” to a third party who will run the tournaments OR do we want a City employee to be completely in charge of tournaments [marketing the Complex, recruiting the teams, scheduling fields and umpires, etc.]? Some hybrid approach?
5. City staffing. Each topic above cannot be tackled in and of itself but rather consider how each topic cascades to one another and the knock-on effect on personnel. Or, one may wish to start with an addition to staff or reorganization of existing staff and let that decision cascade to the other four prongs.

Any other questions/choices that need to be added to this paper? There are other ideas floating around; we do not want to miss any opportunities. The vision is to agree a set of priorities and an order in which to address them. Then the City and larger community will KNOW we have a PLAN for the Complex.

T O U R N A M E N T S

FULL OR PART TIME ADDITION TO STAFF? / RESPONSIBILITIES AND PRIORITIES?

DRAINAGE /
TILING

BUILDINGS /
SERVICES

S C H O O L D I S T R I C T

