



City of Evansville

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Notice of Pool Operations

The Common Council of the City of Evansville decided not to open the Veterans Memorial Aquatic Center for the summer of 2020. There was much discussion at two Park Board meetings about the recreational needs of the community and being able to remain safe within CDC and Rock County Health guidelines. Our Aquatic Director provided an outline of operations that would not have provided all of the same activity that we have come accustomed to, however may have worked in meeting recommended practices during this health crisis. This plan was seriously considered and may have led to the pool opening if not for a much larger leak showing in the pool upon recent inspection.

Concerns over COVID and the possibility of transmission aside, the timeline for the repair would have made opening the pool difficult this year. If completed on the most optimistic of schedules operations would be for a very short season. The costs of such a repair, along with the projected revenue losses due to a shortened season and limited services, would have increased the tax supplementation (the amount of money to cover expenses not matched by revenue) not budgeted.

This was not an easy decision for the Board Members and the Common Council. They were very conflicted about wanting to provide some relief this summer yet keeping the community safe. In the end they were very uncertain about our physical ability to open, let alone concerns about operating safely, and they felt obligated to provide an answer to the public about operations for 2020.

Administration will use a portion of the budgeted tax supplementation for operations to complete leak repairs over the summer. We hope to see all of you pool side in 2021.

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Patrick "Ian" Rigg, MPA
City Administrator/Finance Director