

Recreation Committee

Rutland Public Pool Committee

Minutes

1/5/15

Community attendance: Dawn Daley, Tom Cohen, Candy Fox, Barbara Richter, Erin Cole, John Cohen, Bethany Bosch, Melissa Patterson, Marie Gilmond, Gordon Dritschilo, Don Tadio, Cindy Murray, Gail Johnson, Debbie Creed, Joel Blumenthal, Richard Westfall, Ruth Westfall, Theresa Sunderland, Alanna Stygles, Anne Carpenter

Staff: Cindi Wight and Bob Peterson

Alderman: Matt Bloomer

The meeting started with introductions by all present including their connection to the pool. Cindi thanked Gail Johnson, Erin Shimp, Debbie Creed and Barbara Richter for their support in working on actions we had proposed in 12/22/14 meeting.

One request from the 12/22 meeting was the timeline for construction. Weston & Sampson noted that it would be 9 months for a new outdoor pool with a new bathhouse and 12 months for an indoor facility. The length of time for permits would be additional.

Barbara Richter spoke on the topic of the non-binding referendum that was mentioned at the 12/22 meeting. She noted that a non-binding referendum is one question with a yes or no answer. She believed that at this time we did not have enough information to decide on the one question and recommended that we instead spend the energy on getting the surveys out to the community for feedback. This was informally agreed upon by the group.

The next topic was on the surveys that Erin, Cindi and Gail had worked on based on comments from the 12/22 meeting. One survey is intended for individuals in the Rutland region and the other survey is for business owners in the Rutland region. The purpose of the second round of surveys for the individual is to make sure we are reaching more than the current White Pool users for feedback on whether we should: 1) have a pool; 2) indoor vs outdoor; 3) funding sources; and 4) what they would currently vote.

Feedback from the first draft was to:

- Simplify language and note "outdoor pool" and "indoor pool" and not use any words such as Aquatic Center
- Add more information under the indoor vs outdoor question on what the costs would mean to them if they were a taxpayer in the city.
- Clarify what a bond means and private investments
- Keep language consistent with a 2 ½ month outdoor pool and 12 month indoor pool

Cindi and Gail will meet to develop a second draft and then have Erin, Debbie and Marie review before sending out.

The business survey is focused on feedback from the businesses around the concept of an indoor pool. Tom Cohen noted that the business survey should be very clear with language. Based on feedback we removed a question on prioritizing users and keeping focus on a business owner. We will also add additional questions around private investments to clearly find out ways that a business would consider supporting a pool. The business survey will also go through a second draft and be reviewed by a subcommittee before going out.

Cindi reviewed the Fact Sheet that had been created based on comments at the 12/22 meeting that committee members weren't clear on the facts around the pool. At this time there are no updates to the Fact sheet presented.

Cindi brought up that based on feedback from the surveys we will likely need future subcommittees. At this time the survey is the full focus. Once the final draft is done Cindi will send it out to the committee and look to the group to help get the word out. All those that pass it on will report back to Cindi on how they dispersed the survey so we can see if there are any ways we are not reaching Rutland Region residents and businesses. Cindi will update the committee the first week of February on the status of collection to date and then convene if necessary to come up with a game plan on getting more surveys out. The surveys will close the end of February.

Tom Cohen and Marie Gilmond will work with Cindi on a business plan for a pool to see if it is feasible to operate a 12 month public pool in the region.

There was informal discussion at the end of the meeting on time lines for various aspects of the project. The timelines will continue to be discussed at future meetings based on input from the survey.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday March 5th at 5:30 at the Recreation Department main offices at 16 North Street Extension. The meeting will focus on reviewing the results of the surveys and next steps.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cindi Wight.

Recreation Committee met on 1/8/15 at 5:30, agenda: discussion of municipal pool existing/future

Committee members in attendance were Matt Bloomer, Gary Donahue and Chris Siliski chaired by Melinda Humphrey. Other Aldermen in attendance were President Allaire, Jon Kiernan, Abby Brodowski and William Notte.

Representing the Rec Dept were Superintendant Wight and Bob Peterson. Also in attendance were Gordon Dritschilo, Ron Hemingway, Becky Sowards and Mattie Sowards.

- Superintendant Wight opened by noting that her team had realized this is a long term decision and had decided any decision regarding municipal pool should not be rushed in order to get something on the March ballot. The team had discussed potentially a special election later in the spring/early summer though with further discussion this seemed premature as well.
- Wight described the process that she has begun to collect input regarding a municipal pool.
 - First public forum in December, well attended, primarily by users of the pool. Action items from that meeting resulted in a pool committee being formed and a survey being conducted
 - First public survey reached approximately 60 people, 70% Rutland, 30% out of town, primarily pool users. Results attached
 - First pool committee meeting was on 12/22, there are 84 recipients on the pool committee email list. Minutes from the first pool meeting attached.
 - Second pool committee meeting held on 1/5, minutes attached.
 - ✓ Fact sheet created for committee members to share with others, attached
 - Committee intends to do another public survey, specifically to reach out to folks that aren't identified as pool users and to ask questions about funding and to include specific tax impact examples based on funding type.
 - ✓ Will also ask questions specific to business owners and other stakeholders/ taxpayers, not just residents
 - Next pool committee meeting in March, second survey will be complete by then.
 - Wight noted additional public forums are planned beyond that
- President Allaire explained out of town interests include business owners, and other stakeholders that may stand to gain from a new facility
- Bob Peterson from Rec asked the Rec Committee how the group feels about the process they are currently following regarding the pool.
 - Allaire is a supporter, said pool is a basic city service, we should continue to take as much thoughtful input as we can to get to a successful outcome.
- Alderman Notte suggested to ask on survey if they are a landlord. Landlords have opinions on need and location. Landlords and other property owners pay

taxes but may not reside or vote in Rutland and should be approached for their input as well. Notte also cautioned that in a public forum, we are “preaching to the choir”, suggested the pool committee should build an informed group of folks ready to spread the word and be able to explain to others. He noted this is not ready for a March ballot, the group should take its time and spread the word. Full finance and design plan necessary before taking this to voters. Any sense of rush will aggravate voters.

- Alderman Bloomer asked how do you get more feedback from un-informed or naysayers, people less likely to respond to outreach or a survey. Their input is important also. The committee should build talking points specific to value of a pool facility even if you’re not a user.
- Alderman Donahue asked if White’s current pool location is still an option.
 - Peterson said not unless the existing ground water issues are addressed.
- Alderman Siliski asked what is life expectancy of a new pool? Peterson responded mid-high 30 yrs at current location if ground water addressed and also noted that residents seem to prefer existing location at White’s.
- Siliski explained that residents may prefer one location over another due to value specific to them, property value, etc... though for the city a facility may be more valuable in another location for economic payback and other reasons. The facility needs a good vision and marketing plan with all these pieces in mind, presented by city leaders.
- Alderman Donahue noted that he recently heard from a resident that there are six private pools in the area and thought that was adequate
 - Alderman Notte said he received the same call and thought it was a bogus argument against a municipal pool facility. He said the same argument has been made about basketball courts vs the new rec center. Courts are just not available when needed and the offerings to youth are suffering for it. It is insufficient to say that private facilities are enough
- Alderman Brodowski noted that for pools, the private offerings are not affordable or close by, not kid/family friendly and to find something suitable, you have to go out of town. She also urged that the time be taken to gather information to find out what is appropriate, but this is a need and she would like to see it happen sooner than later.
- President Allaire reiterated the question is not just pool? Yes or no?, we are truly trying to find out what the community wants. There is no predetermined end to this decision and this is an important message to reiterate throughout the process.
- Siliski suggested that part of the marketing message and community discussion should be what obligation do we all have to future Rutland even if we personally don’t intend to use the pool.
- Superintendent Wight said she had the sense from the community that they do want a pool. Now the question is, “what is it going to be?”
- Alderman Brodowski suggested surveying folks in places like the plaza parking lot, easy, non digital access to a broad range of folks that may not otherwise go out of their way to provide input.
 - Wight noted also they intend some door to door outreach

- Alderman Siliski asked if feasible to put a non binding question on the ballot, such as “do you think it is important for our community to have a pool- yes or no?”
 - Superintendent Wight responded that may take energy away from the efforts to find the “what” in regards to pool design and needs.
- Alderman Notte suggested surveys to be taken at summertime events, family events, soccer games, soccer, etc... and in such a way, collecting input while marketing to families and building enthusiasm at same time. He also mentioned he is not comfortable with a non binding question, we do not have enough info yet to ask yes/no. He is concerned that people may make a decision prematurely, in regards to the pool we need to research, research and then sell it.
- Alderman Siliski asked if the high school was a logical location for a pool facility. There had been Act 250 concerns, though maybe something had changed over the years such that it may now be feasible.
 - Superintendent Wight responded that there is still no room at the school, Act 250 clearly limits ability to have a pool at the high school.
- Mr. Hemingway asked if the lifespan of an indoor pool is different than an outdoor facility. Many folks in the room agreed this is an interesting question to add to the fact sheet and Cindi will take this to the committee.

The committee wrapped up concluding that we'd had a comprehensive update of what Cindi has done and is planning to do regarding collecting input. Superintendent Wight asked for general consensus from the Rec Committee that this is the appropriate process and supports it. Alderman Donahue said that he agreed and others on the committee nodded in agreement as well.

This report was for information only.

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Minutes respectfully submitted by Cindi Wight.

Rutland Public Pool Committee

Minutes

12/22/14

Community attendance: Jody Sabatase, Marie Gilmond, John Cohen, Erin Shimp, Debbie Creed, Cindy Murray, Gail Johnson, Barbara Richter, Dawn Daley, Andrea Cohen, Sherilynn Stofka, Anne Carpenter
Staff: Cindi Wight

We reviewed the survey statistics to date and reviewed the results of the public meeting.

SURVEY RESULTS TO DATE

Primary use

39% public swim
25% swim lessons
13% lap swim
12% swim team

All uses

76% public swim
65% swim lessons
26% lap swim
22% swim team

Indoor vs outdoor

25% indoor
35% outdoor
31% both

Location

Indoor - 27% at Giorgetti and 33% at Whites.

Outdoor - 67% at Whites and 16% at Giorgetti.

The only other location with double digit responses was the Allen Street Campus for an indoor pool (19%) but based on conversations with the school that is not a viable location.

Features (in order)

1. Swim lessons focused
2. Competitive pool (57% want a 4' turn end; 31% want a minimum 7' on both ends; and 12% selected both designs for top features)
3. Diving board
4. Separate kiddie pool
5. Lap swim
6. Community pool

(#'s 3-6 were almost identical in interest)

PUBLIC MEETING RESULTS

Indoor vs outdoor

50% indoor

45% outdoor

5% both

Location

Indoor – 24% Giorgetti and 50% Whites

Outdoor – 95% Whites

Features

1. Competitive pool
2. Zero depth
3. Swimming lessons/adult fitness (listed as one option)
4. Slides
5. Community pool

The results to date give good feedback on those that use the pool. The decision was to continue to solicit feedback. Erin Shimp, Gail Johnson and Cindi Wight will meet to put together a new survey (s) to solicit feedback from those that potentially do not use the pool and business owners. We will utilize the committee to help get the survey out to folks including hard copies for those that are not typically using the internet.

There was discussion on bringing more communities to the plate for an indoor facility. One concept was to re-do the outdoor pool at Whites with a goal of opening July 1, 2016 and look to have a Phase 2 that was an indoor center. The comment was made that there is land available for sale around White Park. Gail Johnson suggested a non-binding referendum. The next meeting will look at that idea more closely and determine if it is one that is put on just the city ballot or also surrounding towns. Barbara Richter and Cindi will bring sample wording to the meeting for a referendum question.

The committee requested to have a fact sheet pulled together about the city pool. The fact sheet would include the current status of White's Pool and why it will not open for the 2015 season.

The agenda included looking at a timeline. Cindi will reach out to Weston & Sampson, who did the initial assessment, to determine the construction timeline with a goal of opening July 1, 2016. This will help determine other timelines for the project.

Ideas were brought up for how to reduce costs to renovate and re-build the pool at White Park. This included naming opportunities for buildings; asking local companies for assistance; and reaching out to

Stafford Tech for building a new bath house. The committee noted they would take an integral role in making it happen once we have a game plan.

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday January 5th at 5:30 p.m. at Courcelle. The agenda will include the non-binding referendum, timeline, fact sheet and survey.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cindi Wight.



Rutland City Public Pool Initiative

What is it?

Rutland Recreation & Parks Department had a professional assessment done of White's Pool at the end of the summer of 2014, based on the reports of the Pool Director that noted several deficiencies.

The funding for the assessment was requested by the new Superintendent, Cindi Wight, in the fall of 2013. It was approved by the mayor and BOA in December, 2013 and included in the municipal budget that was passed in March 2014.

The results of the assessment state that White's Pool cannot re-open as it currently exists. The decision must be made to either incur extensive repairs and/or replace and revamp the existing infrastructure. Early community feedback places the Rutland City pool at the current location of White's Park.

Why Close?

- Extensive leaking of water through:
 - Failed gutters
 - Main pipes
 - Cracks in pool
 - Failed expansion joints
- The status of the bottom of the pool results in cuts to patrons on an annual basis
- The main power to the pool is not sufficient and does not meet current electrical codes
- The concrete decking is a trip hazard

What should we do?

Continue to be involved in the process. An email update goes out after committee meetings. If you are not on the list ask to be included. For more information call 773-1822 or email cindiw@rutlandrec.com.

Repair or Renovate?

- The current pump house is in good repair
- The main pool will need to be demolished and replaced.
- The kiddie pool will need to be demolished and determined if replaced.
- The bath house is in such extensive need of repair that it will likely prove more financially beneficial to replace than renovate.

Indoors or Outdoors?

- An outdoor pool is open for 10 weeks
- An indoor Aquatic Center would be open for 12 months
- Cost to build ranges from \$1.5—\$3 million for outdoor and \$3—\$4 million for indoors.
- Maintenance and operations for outdoors has been \$90,000 and indoor could be \$500,000—\$600,000.

For every \$1,000,000 bonded the average annual property tax payment is \$10.23

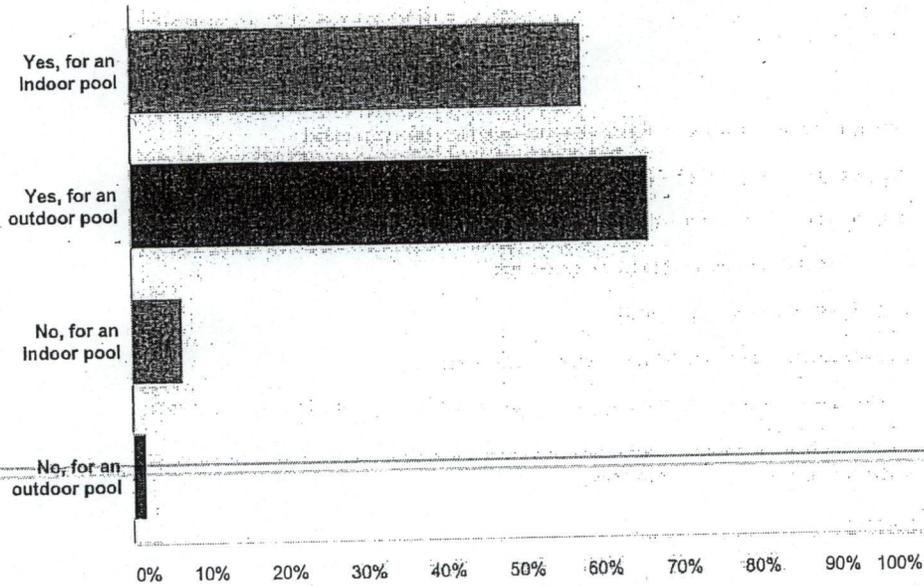
For every \$100,000 subsidized (operations) the annual property tax payment is \$15.00

(The above is based on a home valued at \$150,000)

Rutland Public Pool

Q12 If you were on your way to the polls today what would be your vote?

Answered: 249 Skipped: 9



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes, for an indoor pool	57.83% 144
Yes, for an outdoor pool	66.27% 165
No, for an indoor pool	6.43% 16
No, for an outdoor pool	1.61% 4
Total Respondents: 249	

#	Why?	Date
1	we need sunshine and children need to learn to swim	1/4/2015 8:01 PM
2	year round usage	12/31/2014 3:17 PM
3	tremendous asset for the community, good income generator	12/29/2014 5:13 AM
4	yes for outdoor pool	12/28/2014 4:45 PM
5	I would mostly vote for an indoor pool so that way our family could go swimming year round not only in the summer	12/27/2014 11:05 PM
6	Families need activities	12/27/2014 10:52 PM
7	we need a pool either outdoor or both, but at least an outdoor.	12/26/2014 9:29 PM
8	It's not the only facility that needs renovations.	12/26/2014 8:34 PM
9	Too expensive for indoor, but its a need to have the outdoor pool for access by many across income levels and interests.	12/26/2014 3:54 PM
10	Recreational spot for kids. Affordable swim lessons.	12/26/2014 1:10 PM

Rutland Public Pool

11	This is a great offering for families in an area there is less to do.	12/26/2014 1:07 PM
12	Good for the community - both health of citizens of county and for safe place for kids and families to go	12/26/2014 12:43 PM
13	Its good for the community	12/26/2014 11:28 AM
14	Beneficial to young people and hopefully cost effective	12/25/2014 11:00 AM
15	A community pool makes a great statement about the inclusion of all citizens from within the community. Rutland is such an inclusive community.	12/24/2014 11:01 AM
16	open all year	12/23/2014 8:32 PM
17	It is always good to have public places that teens can go and have fun - year round.	12/22/2014 2:52 PM
18	whites is a great place for kids. hard to argue with 12 month season for indoor though	12/22/2014 9:22 AM
19	Children need a place to cool down that's close	12/21/2014 8:50 AM
20	Because the Mitchell therapy pool is good, but it's too small.	12/21/2014 5:32 AM
21	The cost for indoor maintenance is too much	12/20/2014 6:54 PM
22	I think good facilities are just one more way to attract people to the area.	12/20/2014 5:55 PM
23	Get the outdoor pool up and running and designed in a way to add on a covered structure when Rutland's size and economy can maintain it.	12/20/2014 8:54 AM
24	Exercise and good place for children of all ages	12/19/2014 8:05 PM
25	Need recreation	12/19/2014 5:59 PM
26	year round use	12/18/2014 9:31 PM
27	Property taxes unaffordable.	12/18/2014 7:13 PM
28	Its a great activity-based community resource	12/17/2014 9:47 PM
29	We need an indoor pool in a city as big as Rutland. It would give teens something to do with their spare time and build their confidence in something worthwhile. I would love to see us build a sports center that included an indoor pool. That would be great!	12/17/2014 9:14 PM
30	It is a great family activity year round. We would use it weekly through the year.	12/17/2014 8:15 PM
31	there are plenty of other indoor pools in the area	12/17/2014 8:13 PM
32	We spend a lot of time at the pool in the summer, and pool access would be nice in the winter.	12/17/2014 6:35 PM
33	Outdoor is good too but indoor would offer year-round swimming (summers are so very short here)	12/17/2014 4:45 PM
34	Cost and time to construct	12/17/2014 3:42 PM
35	In an ideal world we would have a public pool, but given the economic climate it might not be something everyone can afford now. Having an outdoor pool that is only open for 3 months of the year seems like an expensive option, but if it's going to cost us \$500K+ to run an indoor facility every year, then that is also too much.	12/17/2014 12:03 PM
36	I think being active is a great way to exercise, especially swimming.	12/17/2014 11:59 AM
37	Seasonal activity that should be supported in our community.	12/17/2014 11:57 AM
38	The pool was used so much, there seems to be a need for it	12/17/2014 11:03 AM
39	The community NEEDS it!	12/17/2014 10:45 AM
40	To have another way of helping our communities get and stay fit	12/17/2014 10:42 AM
41	Public pool has been a benefit to living in Rutland	12/17/2014 10:06 AM
42	swimming for family & children, keep the swim team at white	12/17/2014 9:29 AM
43	Within 15 minutes of Rutland is access to 2 indoor pools.	12/17/2014 9:17 AM
44	At a minimum there should be an outdoor public pool Rutland can't afford to lose more assets	12/17/2014 8:57 AM

Rutland Public Pool

45	Indoor pool too expensive to build and maintain. An indoor pool would be much too small as the only pool in the city.	12/17/2014 8:53 AM
46	Because I am shocked that it is even a controversy at all. For the health and well being of all members of this community, a pool is a wise and necessary investment.	12/17/2014 8:33 AM
47	Personally, an indoor pool for lap swimming would be perfect to meet my needs. Pico is too far away to fit into my schedule. I would love for my daughter to be actively involved in a year round swim program and kids in this area NEED something like this to be a part of for so many reasons beyond just the physical benefits of swimming.	12/17/2014 8:32 AM
48	12 month use	12/17/2014 8:27 AM
49	Rutland needs to have a community pool	12/17/2014 8:21 AM
50	my kids have always enjoyed swimming outside in the sunshine	12/17/2014 8:19 AM
51	Year round use valuable to any community	12/17/2014 8:11 AM
52	Just because of the annual expense of an indoor pool	12/17/2014 8:00 AM
53	cost, money is better spent elsewhere.	12/17/2014 7:31 AM
54	Too expensive and there are others available in the area.	12/17/2014 7:14 AM
55	Because we live in Vermont and have such a short summer. Having an indoor pool addresses the need for overall wellness year round. We drive to Castleton when we can for their indoor pool, but that can be dangerous in the wintertime. It would be great to have a pool close to home.	12/17/2014 6:07 AM
56	It would be nice to have a pool available year round rather than seasonal. The hockey rinks open summer for those people -why can't we have a pool. Also this is the BEST non weight bearing exercise there is. According to the site Vermont is ranked #2 as the most healthiest state- WHY not make it #1. Get everyone young to old fit!	12/17/2014 5:51 AM
57	It is embarrassing that a city of our size doesn't value exercise enough to have an indoor swimming pool. Our options for swimming in Rutland in the winter include driving to Castleton College or paying \$6.50 for 1 1/2 hour once per week at vac pool.	12/16/2014 10:18 PM
58	The pool is a great place for families. My kids have gotten a lot of enjoyment from it. It's an appealing feature for current residents plus potential residents and businesses.	12/16/2014 8:45 PM
59	Usable year round.	12/16/2014 7:54 PM
60	Could use it on any weather all year round.	12/16/2014 7:51 PM
61	All Season Swimming I think would help pay for itself.	12/16/2014 7:11 PM
62	public pool should be outdoors	12/16/2014 6:38 PM
63	I think it would be a nice addition.	12/16/2014 3:45 PM
64	there aren't enough places for year-round swimming in the area	12/16/2014 12:46 PM
65	Less cost	12/16/2014 12:23 PM
66	It's important for the kids of Rutland that have no where else to swim when it's blazing hot	12/16/2014 11:43 AM
67	I believe that Rutland needs recreational facilities to restore its image as a desirable community to work and raise families.	12/16/2014 10:18 AM
68	Indoor pool would be great but not feasible - look at place in White River - struggling to survive - due what you know have worked in the past with pools	12/16/2014 10:04 AM
69	A city the size of Rutland needs some all-weather entertainment.	12/16/2014 8:59 AM
70	A community Rutland's size HAS to have a public pool.	12/16/2014 8:04 AM
71	Really want to swim all year round.	12/16/2014 7:58 AM
72	Swimming is a lifelong activity. The community needs to have a place for kids to learn to swim as well as a place for kids and adults to go to for a healthy activity that lasts a lifetime.	12/16/2014 7:21 AM

Rutland Public Pool

73	THERE IS CLOSE TO NOTHING FOR KIDS TO DO IN RUTLAND NOW. WHITES IS THE ONE PLACE WE CAN DROP KIDS OFF FOR AN AFTERNOON AND THEY HAVE FUN WHILE GETTING SOME EXERCISE. THEY ARE UNPLUGGED AND OUTSIDE. IT WAS A HUGE PART OF MY GROWING UP. I WANT THE SAME ENJOYMENT AND EXPERIENCE FOR MY KIDS. PLEASE DON'T TAKE IT AWAY FROM THEM.	12/16/2014 7:03 AM
74	the pool could be a center piece for the community	12/16/2014 7:02 AM
75	money	12/16/2014 6:55 AM
76	We need to have something positive in Rutland. Giving our children positive outlets.	12/16/2014 6:43 AM
77	It's a no brainer...This area needs to have a pool(s). Many residents are paying \$\$ for memberships elsewhere..Kids in the city need this	12/16/2014 6:31 AM
78	Help Rutland boltser the community.	12/16/2014 5:48 AM
79	Our climate makes us need an indoor pool	12/16/2014 12:34 AM
80	Year-round exercise *and* opportunity to cool off in the summer	12/15/2014 11:33 PM
81	An indoor pool could be utilized year round.	12/15/2014 10:29 PM
82	Rutland needs a pool and has always had a pool. It is time for year round swimming here. Such health benefits also.	12/15/2014 10:24 PM
83	huge draw to the community and indoor winter activity for non-winter sports people	12/15/2014 9:36 PM
84	because this is the only place where some kids can go swimming,because there familys dont have a vehicle,and the kids can walk or ride there bikes or take the bus	12/15/2014 9:36 PM
85	We need a pool bottom line. Would rather have indoor, but will take outdoor.	12/15/2014 9:26 PM
86	Huge asset for community wellness	12/15/2014 9:22 PM
87	cost	12/15/2014 8:49 PM
88	A drawing card to attract new residents	12/15/2014 8:17 PM
89	Inexpensive recreation for children	12/15/2014 7:36 PM
90	It would get year round use and could offer healthy recreation for adults and kids alike.	12/15/2014 7:28 PM
91	This is a critical resource to help build and strengthen our community. This is a necessity!	12/15/2014 7:28 PM
92	Kids and families need it	12/15/2014 7:08 PM
93	I like swimming outdoors in the summertime; there are lots of other activities to d in the winter	12/15/2014 7:00 PM
94	not much for klds and families to do together thats affordable. theres no roller blading or other fun activity other than trails.	12/15/2014 6:23 PM
95	Love to swim!	12/15/2014 6:21 PM
96	Too stuffy in the summer to swim inside. It would be great for all season.	12/15/2014 6:04 PM
97	we have been fortunate to have a pool that has serviced the community for many years. I do not believe that Rutlanders are in a position to put out the exorbitant amount of money that an indoor pool would require. we are a blue collar community with a very high povity level. people outside of the city want us to shoulder the burden financially and use.	12/15/2014 5:34 PM
98	Usable 12 months rather than just 2. This is Vermont.	12/15/2014 5:26 PM
99	white pool was great, inviting and well maintained.	12/15/2014 5:02 PM
100	If this city really wanted to decrease the obesity here they would afford our children and adults to swim year round.	12/15/2014 5:00 PM
101	greatest use, by the most, for the money.	12/15/2014 5:00 PM
102	Taxes too high already	12/15/2014 4:43 PM
103	Would be able to use year round	12/15/2014 4:27 PM

Rutland Public Pool

104	the city needs a pool as a high quality amenity to help make Rutland the most desirable community in the region to live and work in.	12/15/2014 4:24 PM
105	An indoor pool could be used year round and during inclement weather.	12/15/2014 4:21 PM
106	depends on length of time the pool would be open each year	12/15/2014 4:10 PM
107	White's has been such an asset to the community. The maintenance is so much less with an outdoor pool.	12/15/2014 4:08 PM
108	We have VAC for an indoor pool. I think it's important for our community to also have an outdoor pool.	12/15/2014 3:54 PM
109	Families need to get outside and get exercise, as well as other people.	12/15/2014 3:48 PM
110	Indoor more practical in this weather	12/15/2014 3:48 PM
111	we need to take care of what we have and be thankful and grateful we have it.	12/15/2014 3:47 PM
112	costs	12/15/2014 3:43 PM
113	There is a lack of both in the Rutland public sector. As much as I really like the idea of an indoor pool I also believe an outdoor pool is very necessary to get kids outdoors in the summer.	12/15/2014 3:42 PM

Rutland Public Pool

Q13 Any final comments?

Answered: 89 Skipped: 169

#	Responses	Date
1	the pool should have been upgraded every year	1/4/2015 8:01 PM
2	I would love an Indoor/outdoor pool. I think this is a great idea!!!	1/1/2015 12:44 PM
3	I strongly support an enhanced recreation facility plus indoor pool for Rutland.. My family and I would use it regularly..	12/29/2014 5:13 AM
4	I find it ridiculous to have gotten a grant to build a park at the White's pool location and now you want to move the location of the pool. That is a waste of donated funds and community involvement in ownership of building a park for children that you now want to make obsolete. You also want to spend obscene amounts of money in building an entirely new pool at a new location instead of investing those funds in repairing and upgrading the already existing pool. This is such a ludicrous waste of money and effort in a city that does not have money to throw around. Repair White's Pool and keep a Rutland tradition alive and stop trying to waste outrageous amounts of funds to build something somewhere else just because you think it will make the city look like a more inviting place!!!!	12/28/2014 1:35 PM
5	I would really enjoy an indoor pool at Georgetti Park as long as the ice skating rink does not get taken out and ice skating would still be available, but if there would not be ice skating still available because of an indoor pool I would vote for the outdoor pool at Georgetti Park.	12/27/2014 11:05 PM
6	I have been to these types of facilities in other states. They are very successful, people who vacation at Killington would come and pay to use Rutland's pool. Locals pay a reasonable fee. Out of town people pay a higher fee. Kids need more things to do. All the kids that spend most of their summer days at White's pool - what would they be doing all day if there was no pool?	12/27/2014 10:52 PM
7	They should keep White's pool open while they build the new pool. My family has been going there for the last three years for swim lessons and open swim and love the pool. We would be very sad if there was no pool this summer. Also, ask other neighboring towns to help pay for the pool. I don't live in the city but use the pool a lot and would be willing to pay to help it get built as long as I got the same price as a city resident. We need an outdoor pool but would not mind having an indoor pool too.	12/26/2014 9:29 PM
8	A pool can be a vital part of a community, helping to keep kids and adults active and healthy. Don't put all the eggs in one basket though, other areas need to be addressed as well (Georgetti Rink needs upgrades to serve the needs of skaters and skateboarders, for example).	12/26/2014 8:34 PM
9	I believe that the cheapest and quickest "fix" is to repair White's. No fancy changing area...just get it ready ASAP. I would not want only an indoor pool because who wants to swim indoors in the summer. I am worried that an indoor pool pass, should it be offered, would be too expensive for the working middle class families.	12/26/2014 1:16 PM
10	Rutland is a central location in Rutland County and these programs are of benefit to families in the community. I think families in other cities would be more supportive of Rutland Rec if there were similar pricing guidelines as we are part of the same county. If people come from a different county or state they should incur different cost.	12/26/2014 1:07 PM
11	Love the length of current pool - so sad not opening this summer	12/26/2014 12:43 PM
12	Lowest possible impact on taxpayer responsibility.	12/25/2014 11:00 AM
13	Keep it simple.	12/23/2014 5:30 PM
14	keep up the good work cindi.	12/22/2014 9:22 AM
15	Why change a good thing? Use the location you already put money into. Instead of the new playground and paint it should have went into fixing that pool. ALSO, use that baseball field!! Stop wasting money!!!!	12/21/2014 8:50 AM
16	White's is the perfect spot for the pool. I hope they work something out for this year's swim team.	12/20/2014 6:54 PM
17	Thanks for spending the time to find out what people want :-) and for all the hard work everyone at Rec does everyday!	12/20/2014 5:55 PM
18	This town is not a livable community without a public pool	12/19/2014 9:08 PM

Rutland Public Pool

19	This bullds the community as a whole, and supports healthy activity for swimmers of all ages.	12/19/2014 8:05 PM
20	none	12/18/2014 9:31 PM
21	Grand list must be grown by City development. No further burden placed on property tax payers.	12/18/2014 7:13 PM
22	Very hopeful that our community will have a pool. Our family has loved going to White's and there are always so many people there! Good luck to all of you who are trying to sort this out - it can't be easy!	12/18/2014 6:13 AM
23	Thank you for all you do to make Rutland a truly wonderful community!	12/17/2014 9:06 PM
24	We have travelled to WRJ to the Aquatic Center and It is a wonderful place. An Indoor pool modeled after it would be ideal.	12/17/2014 8:15 PM
25	I would be happy if they renovate whites pool - or an outdoor pool in an area park	12/17/2014 8:13 PM
26	If you create an indoor pool with the idea that it will pay for it's self with a business model, you would be able to pass a vote. Rutland city is not wealthy enough to support a private indoor pool or a public outdoor pool on taxes alone. You must create a business model to show tax payers they will not have to front the entire bill. (add in a baseball/softball batting zone and you can gather even more activities within the facility, which would fit at White's park as well.)	12/17/2014 2:51 PM
27	The Community certainly needs more to keep our youth out of trouble and away from drugs.	12/17/2014 11:59 AM
28	Thanks	12/17/2014 10:42 AM
29	Swim lessons and swim team amazing. Would hate to see these go.	12/17/2014 10:17 AM
30	Need the pool at whites.It Avery nice area.	12/17/2014 9:29 AM
31	I love the idea of an indoor pool for the winter and rainy days... But of course in the summer you want to be outside! It would add some employment opportunities to the community. Thank you for including the community. I am sure there are alot of great ideas for location and design!	12/17/2014 9:23 AM
32	A facility with all year access would be ideal, but I think it's more important to provide a community space for outdoor activities during summer months in one location (playground, pool etc.). Is a temporary, bubble type structure an option for winter months?	12/17/2014 9:17 AM
33	This could be a bonded project and made unto a real show piece for the City if we work with the surrounding towns to build a coop we may be able to get everything g we want and share the cost . It is also my firm belief that it should remain at Whites because of visibility ---- there is 2/3 acres for sale which can be used as access from route 7 for additional parking / access etc.... This could be huge!!!!	12/17/2014 8:57 AM
34	Indoor pools seem to only work in communities the size of Rutland if they are built contiguous with a recreation complex complete with a gym, work out facilities, fields and the recreation administrative offices. It becomes a community center.	12/17/2014 8:53 AM
35	not at Giorgetti	12/17/2014 8:27 AM
36	I am not a resident but an avid swimmer and think that the more community pools out there the safer Vermont will be with respect to drowning prevention and the healthler the people will be swimming is a great sport and exercise that can carry well into advanced age, and can be undertaken by people with rehabilitative needs as well as disabilities. It is for ALL ages!	12/17/2014 8:11 AM
37	I brought my kids to the Rutland Rec summer program because it is better than any others around. I think it is a hidden Jewel for Rutland.	12/17/2014 8:00 AM
38	I'm undecided on whether Rutland City needs a pool. My final vote would come down to cost and access. It would be great if the location were on one of the bus routes for even easier access.	12/17/2014 7:14 AM
39	Please let's make it happen	12/17/2014 7:13 AM
40	Having an outdoor pool in the summer allows our children to enjoy fresh air. And having a pool in the community gives are children a healthy safe place to be during the summer. Without this pool you will see an increase in our at risk children getting involved in activity that is unhealthy. This pool is a great place for the rec camps to access.	12/17/2014 6:13 AM
41	Thank you!	12/17/2014 6:07 AM
42	Would be interested in combining efforts with Intrepid Athletics in helping	12/17/2014 5:51 AM

Rutland Public Pool

43	In order to revitalize Rutland, we need to offer amenities that other small towns take for granted. There is limited choice of solo activities in Rutland..not all of us want to indulge in team sports. The bike path is a great step in the right direction.....please...let's follow that up with a pool.	12/16/2014 10:18 PM
44	I definitely think an outdoor pool should be in the city. It would be great to have an indoor pool during the winter, but retaining an outdoor pool is a much higher priority. I hope a pool will be in the White's area. If not, the next best choice would be Rotary field.	12/16/2014 8:45 PM
45	I think the old Southeast school location would be a great location considering the structure is already there with area available for additions in the future to maybe expand to a full recreation center.	12/16/2014 7:11 PM
46	outdoor pool	12/16/2014 6:38 PM
47	Have been using White's Pool since 1982	12/16/2014 12:23 PM
48	Keep a municipal pool in Rutland City for the community to use and enjoy.	12/16/2014 11:43 AM
49	Bathrooms should be a major focus. bathrooms with air dryers (eliminates paper towels, and can be used for drying hair). Bathrooms with stall doors. Changing table for infants.	12/16/2014 10:29 AM
50	I would prefer an indoor or outdoor pool rather than no pool.	12/16/2014 10:18 AM
51	stay strong!	12/16/2014 10:13 AM
52	We live in an area that has a huge variety of seasonal sports, swimming included. Let the die hard swimmers continue to use VAC, Holiday Inn, Pico and Killington pools. In my mind - swimming goes along with summer. Why take on additional facility costs when you already have at least 4 indoor pools available for those that want to swim? If you want a grandiose idea - build a facility where you can ski year round!	12/16/2014 10:04 AM
53	Think big and take cues from Montshire's outdoor waterscape, incorporate more than a pool but fun learning features for children and adults, handicap accessible, shade, green spaces and think about an indoor/outdoor space partnering with solar and GMC.	12/16/2014 8:59 AM
54	An indoor pool would be nice for kids to have other activities in the winter. Also I suspect that a fair amount of money goes out of town in the winter to other indoor pool facilities.	12/16/2014 8:42 AM
55	Thank you for working on this!	12/16/2014 8:04 AM
56	There is no reason why a city this size cannot support a pool.	12/16/2014 7:58 AM
57	Thanks for involving community members early in the process	12/16/2014 7:02 AM
58	Health & Wellness....Get the RRMC on board with this.. As I work in the school system, many new high school students ask about participating on the school's swim team..Surprised there isn't one...This (a pool) is a draw for many new residents. A better location than Giorgetti...traffic concerns for that particular neighborhood...Giorgetti site was voted down before, would hate to have all this work in preparation for the bond and have it shot down because of the site. Maintain the facility, don't let things slide before they are unmanageable. For this amount of money to be spent, it has to be a year round facility - it only makes sense. Offer lifeguard lessons and in turn this area would have lifeguards available - don't depend just on the college kids home for the summer for lifeguards. Work out something with The BUS and the school dept for transportation within the city. High school students could use their student ID's. City taxpayers have a pass for use of the BUS...just some ideas.	12/16/2014 6:31 AM
59	Rutland needs a pool. But the indoor pool is expensive so could understand why city residents wouldn't want to pay for one.	12/16/2014 5:48 AM
60	A versatile community pool is a valuable asset to a community. It fosters exercise and can serve as a facility to teach swim lessons and host swim teams. Swimming is an excellent form of exercise, especially for seniors who might have physical limitations.	12/16/2014 5:15 AM
61	Could you work with the Mitchell Pool at VAC to expand their hours to help with the need for an indoor pool? I voted for the Giorgetti location because I like the idea of multiple activities at one site, and a pool at a peaceful location with nature around.	12/15/2014 11:33 PM
62	I think rutland needs a public pool, be it indoor or outdoor to serve the community as a fun and healthy outlet to exercise and spend time together as a family. I have been bringing my daughters to white's pool for several summers since moving to rutland. We enjoy it and loom forward to spending time in it's future replacement.	12/15/2014 10:29 PM
63	We need to make this community more beneficial for middle income families.	12/15/2014 10:24 PM

Rutland Public Pool

64	A town pool increases the appeal of a town as a potential home, and thus increases property values. It increases day camp enrollment in the summer. It decreases town water use as residents are less likely to get their own pool with a nice town pool nearby. It helps residents get to know one another. For example, I met other "swim" mothers while my little boy had swimming lessons.	12/15/2014 9:48 PM
65	I would like to see a baby changing station in both male and female bathrooms, preferably a long counter style one, not the plastic pull down kind. Also, would like to see lockers in the bathrooms.	12/15/2014 9:39 PM
66	Can you add spray features to some of the area playgrounds (make spray grounds) for next summer, so neighborhood kids have a place to cool off?	12/15/2014 9:26 PM
67	I wonder if GMP could get involved. They are trying to make Rutland a solar city, maybe the pool building could be a green building.	12/15/2014 8:57 PM
68	This town should also be able to have an indoor pool as well	12/15/2014 8:17 PM
69	Good luck with this!	12/15/2014 7:35 PM
70	Thank you so much for all the hard work to make this happen and to make Rutland into a thriving city. - Emily Gleason	12/15/2014 7:28 PM
71	I have not found White's Pool to be in such disrepair that it should not be strongly considered to just update/refurbish the existing facility. It is a good location and a nice facility.	12/15/2014 6:57 PM
72	Having an indoor pool would provide more jobs year round along with opportunity for swim lessons and renting the pool out to kid parties. An outdoor pool is great for summer but the two months is too short. If there was some way to extend the months that the pool was open it would be much better.	12/15/2014 6:17 PM
73	Ideally an indoor/ outdoor Pool that you can swim from outside to inside.	12/15/2014 6:04 PM
74	Ample public transportation for after school programs and senior practice and water aerobics classes.	12/15/2014 5:46 PM
75	Of course we would love an indoor pool much like UVAC, but a large part of that was funded by a single donation- then funded by the surrounding towns- it was a team effort. The burden of paying for it did not rest on a single community. We are struggling to pay our city taxes and if an indoor facility goes through at the projected cost- it will be the last straw for us and we will move. Would Castleton College be willing to fund part of an indoor facility like they did with Spartan Arena? Or are any area corporations willing to fund any part of it, like RRM, GE, GMP, Casella, OMYA etc... This is a tremendous undertaking, we need as many folks to have a stake in it as possible. If some of these large corporations could partially fund a potential indoor facility, they could have discounted rates for their employees. We want this to work too, but what we can afford (barely) is a renovation of the existing Whites pool.	12/15/2014 5:37 PM
76	Don't ask folks only about their personal use. Even as a taxpayer I still support a pool for all citizens,	12/15/2014 5:26 PM
77	FIX WHITES	12/15/2014 5:00 PM
78	Something like the Upper Valley Aquatic center here would be great!!	12/15/2014 4:45 PM
79	Past time for balanced statewide budgets. Need jobs/industry to support spending	12/15/2014 4:43 PM
80	Why couldn't update whites pool to use year round	12/15/2014 4:30 PM
81	Indoor pool should be seriously considered. At very least a new outdoor pool. Don't remodel the old pool!!!!	12/15/2014 4:27 PM
82	Thank you for working so hard to get public comment on this important topic!! Good luck figuring it all out...	12/15/2014 4:26 PM
83	We are not Rutland residents but we rely on White's Pool in Rutland as our only nearby option for swim lessons. With it closed for 2015, we feel its loss to the community.	12/15/2014 4:21 PM
84	I hope that White's Pool can be renovated to the same specifications. I worry if an indoor pool, the building costs and maintenance are so much more with Rutland city taxes already high on our commercial building. Also I worry that a lot of area swimmers swim at Pico's indoor pool when Whites is closed. Many of these swimmers get a discount if work at Pico or Killington. Since many get a discounted rate at Pico, not sure how many would swim at an indoor facility in Rutland since the employees of Pico and Killington get steeply discounted rates (many area residents work at Pico or Killington). Thanks for allowing input.	12/15/2014 4:08 PM
85	No pool would be a huge loss to the city of Rutland and what we have to offer. Budgetwise I vote for the outdoor pool, but I am not opposed to the indoor pool. Thank you!	12/15/2014 4:04 PM
86	Thank you!	12/15/2014 3:54 PM

Rutland Public Pool

87	I hope that Rutland continues to offer the public the opportunity to have a pool especially an outdoor one. It is important to continue this tradition since more and more people need to get outdoors. Summer is the time when people are more motivated to spend time outdoors with their families. It would truly be a shame to not have an outdoor pool for residents living in the Rutland area.	12/15/2014 3:48 PM
88	The cost of renovations and revamping whites would be more financially sound in my opinion. We do not need to spend any form of millions on something new that we already have. We also have use of north woods pool. And we can use the Mitchell thereof pool plus we have whites(if it was renovated).	12/15/2014 3:47 PM
89	Regardless of the decision we need some sort of pool facility in the Rutland City that is affordable to all/most.	12/15/2014 3:42 PM