



October 12, 2021

RE: Pascagoula Youth Baseball 2022 Season

Dear Pascagoula City Council,

First of all, I would like to thank you for allowing me to come to the October 19th council meeting to represent Pascagoula Youth Baseball. I previously served on the PYB Board for 12 years, serving my last 2 years as president. Jimmy Burnett did a great job as president the last few years especially managing the league during COVID. Jimmy was unable to continue as president so I was reelected president for the 2022 season.

We are trying to be proactive for the 2022 season by setting dates and setting our registration fee so everyone has time to register and everyone knows all the dates and the fees way ahead of time. When I last served as President, the league was able to receive revenue from team sponsors and banner sponsors. I understand that most sponsors go through the city now. We were also able to recoup money we paid to the umpires from the city and now that does not happen anymore either.

I have negotiated with Cal Ripkin for Pascagoula to host some major All Star tournaments for the 2022 season. Cal Ripkin executives are coming into town on October 26 to discuss major tournaments being held in Pascagoula for the next few years. I have asked David Bates to attend that meeting with me to represent the city. When Pascagoula hosts these tournaments, the league is able to generate significant revenue to offset expenses for new equipment and offset registration fees. As you know, Pascagoula was not able to host any tournaments for 2 years while the fields were being constructed. All of our funds from previous tournaments were exhausted running the league for those 2 years. We were able to host a tournament this year which allowed us to have funds for the upcoming year as all of our equipment needs to be replaced.

On behalf of the current PYB board, I am requesting \$10,000 from the city. Our plan is to use these funds to bring the current registration fee of \$90.00 down to a much more affordable fee of \$50.00. We hope to be able to generate enough money hosting tournaments next year and the following years to not need any funds from the city. We believe that with plenty of communication and our ability to lower the registration fee, the number of kids registering will increase substantially.

The city should receive a substantial return on its investment from all the families coming to Pascagoula for all the tournaments we host. Our fields are as nice as any in the state and we look forward to showcasing them to Cal Ripkin as well as all of the families that travel here for tournaments. The board thanks you again for your time and we look forward to working with David for a great 2022 season. Please let me know if you need anything else from me and I look forward to October 19th.

Sincerely,

M. Gentry Williams
President PYB

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