

CASSELTON

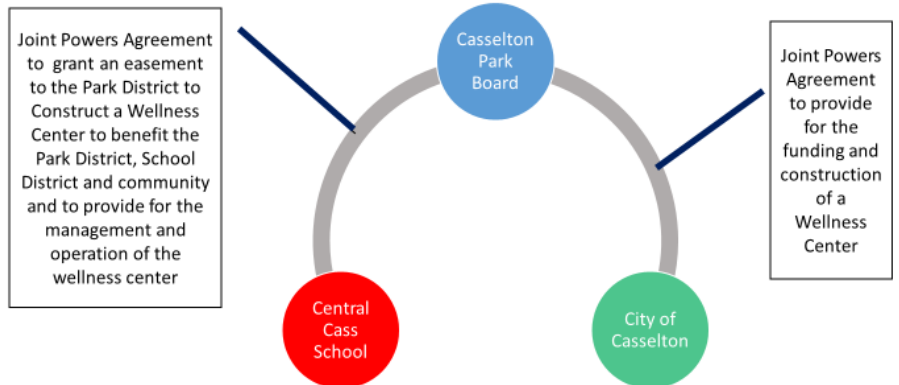
March 21

CITY SALES TAX VOTE



How will the money raised from a sale tax increase be used?

On Tuesday March 21, 2017, Casselton residents will vote on whether to increase the city sales tax from 1% to 2% and dedicate the additional 1% proceeds to a community center. The school facilities serve as a "community center" for Casselton. A wellness center will be part of the community center and for legal reasons the city sales tax dollars will specifically benefit just the wellness center.



The wellness center will be connected to Central Cass School, but owned and operated by the Casselton Park District. There will also be a Wellness Center Advisory Committee to advise the park district regarding the use, management and operation of the facility. The school will use the newly constructed space for physical education classes and extracurricular activity needs (i.e. Fitness Lab) and the Casselton Park District will use the same space to expand its current programming in order to improve the health, welfare and access to recreational activities for the citizens of Casselton (i.e. Wellness Center). The members of the Wellness Center Advisory Committee will include two individuals appointed by the Mayor, two individuals appointed by the President of the Park Board, two individuals appointed by the President of the School Board and one individual appointed by the Advisory Committee.

What are the financial implications of this vote?

If approved, Casselton will bond for \$2.5 million for the benefit of the wellness center, with \$2 million repaid from City sales tax dollars and \$500,000 repaid by the Casselton Park District. The \$2.5 million doesn't include interest and bond costs, which are estimated at \$900,000. Based on current revenues, it is estimated the \$2 million would be repaid from sales tax dollars over approximately 20 years, although if sales tax revenues in Casselton increase, the bonds could be paid off earlier. Once the bonds are paid off, the sales tax will revert back to 1%.

See copies of the Joint Powers Agreement at casselton.com

What amenities are included in the Wellness Center? What services can I expect as a Casselton resident?

Planning for the Wellness Center is still underway by the Park District, Central Cass School and the Wellness Center Advisory Committee so final designs and equipment will not be approved until later.

The School will have dedicated access to the Wellness Center through a lease during specified times. The hours dedicated to the school for academic and athletic programming are currently expected to be as follows:

School Year (M-F on school days)

- 7:30-8:15 a.m. (Weight lifting for Teams)
- 8:30-9:30 a.m. - Wellness/Fitness Class
- 3:30-5:00 p.m. - Sports Teams or Open Lifting
- Others by arrangement with Parks and Rec.

Summer

- Morning Wellness Class or Teams lifting (estimated as 6:30-8:00 a.m.)

There will be additional times where the school will access part of the Wellness Center, such as the locker rooms. The majority of the operational hours will be available to the public at the discretion of the Park District with guidance from the Wellness Center Advisory Committee. This will be established prior to the construction of the Wellness Center.

Programming ideas to be confirmed by the Advisory Committee and Park District, but as of now include:

- Fitness Classes
- Parent/child wellness courses
- Yoga Instruction and Classes
- Parenting classes
- Wellness Labs and Instruction
- Scouting Organizations meeting space
- Community Health Education options
- Senior Citizen Exercise programs
- Community events (Summerfest events)
- Optional use for organizations working with rehab patients
- Additional meeting space for community programs
- Additional meeting space for Park District programs
- Community Health Screening and Advisement (in partnership with other organizations)
- Locker Room access for Casselton and visiting teams for Parks and Rec programming
- Tae Kwon Do Lessons—offered by Park District and/or Community Partners
- Generations Connecting coffee group; be there as the kids come in to lift and greet them
- Finance education meeting spot (Dave Ramsey community group)
- General Health and Wellness Educational programs – healthy cooking, healthy eating, etc.

This preliminary information was provided by Casselton Parks & Rec, who will own and operate the wellness center.



The sales tax vote is funding construction (52,850 sq ft) and equipment only for the proposed space on the east side of the current school space:

(This is a Preliminary Design)

Top Section (north):

- Varsity & Visiting boy's locker rooms with bathrooms/showers
- Coach's office
- Men's coach locker room with bathroom and showers
- Storage

Middle Section:

- Varsity & Visiting girl's locker rooms with bathrooms and showers
- Officials' room
- Coach's office
- Women's coach locker room with bathroom and showers
- Official's room

Bottom Section (south):

- Wellness center/exercise/weight room
- Girls and boys public restrooms

How will the ongoing operating costs for the Wellness Center be funded?

User fees will be charged for residents to be members of the Wellness Center to fund ongoing operating costs, as determined by the Casselton Park District. City sales tax dollars will only go toward initial construction and equipment costs, not ongoing operation and maintenance costs.

Absentee Ballot Process

1. Complete application at
<http://www.nd.gov/eforms/Doc/sfn51468.pdf>
Print and mail to Cass County Auditor and they will mail the absentee ballot back to you for voting
OR submit in person and vote absentee ballot immediately in their office
OR go to Cass County Auditor's office to fill out application and vote absentee immediately.

OR

2. Go to:
<https://www.casscountynd.gov/Pages/default.aspx>
Click the "Where do I vote" circle
Complete house address and zip code, search
Select appropriate address
Click on Absentee Ballot on the left
Fill in information, mail or fax

Cass County Auditor
211 9th St S
Fargo, ND 58103

For assistance call the Cass County Auditor at
701-241-5600

To learn even more about the upcoming vote to increase the Casselton Sale Tax, attend a Public Meeting on March 16 at 7 PM in the Media Center at Central Cass School.

VOTING INFORMATION

Date: Tuesday, March 21

Time: 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM

**Location : Casselton Auditorium
(702 1st St N)**

Remember to bring your ID

Local
Postal Customer

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