

Pittsburg approves outsourcing youth and teen services to non-profit

By Paul Burgarino
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Responsibilities for several Pittsburg-run recreation programs are poised to be handed over to a local non-profit.

The City Council voted Monday to authorize City Manager Marc Grisham to enter into a five-year contract with Craft Community Care Center, Inc. for youth and teen services.

The move continues services for city youngsters the "same as in the past" while reducing costs to Pittsburg's General Fund, Grisham said. Pittsburg should save \$74,070 in the next fiscal year, which starts July 1.

The decision means Pittsburg gives \$144,000 for the non-profit's services this fiscal year, with the amount decreasing each year.

In the agreement Pittsburg will allow the non-profit, named Success Through Self Academy, to continue recreation programming for teen services, tiny tot sports and summer playground programs. Pittsburg will let STS Academy use three city community centers at 60 Civic Avenue, 710 Black Diamond Street and the center at Buchanan Park and existing equipment and supplies.

Before voting 4-1 in approval, council members asked questions about STS Academy's insurance, what happened if their grant money goes awry and if they had any concerns with a possible contract.

The two sides have agreed in principle on a contract, though terms are still being discussed.