



MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR GLENN JACOBS

400 Main Street, Suite 615, Knoxville, TN 37902

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 9, 2021

Contact: Mike Donila Abbey Harris
306-1177 cell 215-4579 office
705-1681 cell

Mayor Jacobs: Two Companies Donate to Replace Stolen Ballpark Wiring

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.— Two local companies are set to donate time, supplies and labor to replace and repair almost \$30,000 worth of theft and vandalism that occurred at Gibbs Ruritan Park late last year when someone ripped out and stole the wiring throughout the ballparks.

In a letter to Knox County leaders, officials with Progression Electric and Irby Electric said they would like to fix the damage “to ensure that we have a functioning facility for our kids in the community to enjoy the sports they love.”

The Knox County Commission is expected to formally accept the proposal later this month.

The total donation? Roughly \$28,750.

“It was really disappointing for something like this to happen in a year that’s already been so frustrating for so many,” said Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs. “The reason Knox County is the best place in the world to live and raise a family. Our people and contributions like this prove how true that is.”

Jay Wise, project manager with Progression, said they were all more than happy to help.

“We’re just trying to help our community out and do what’s right,” Wise added. “We have most of the stuff here and it won’t take long because we’re ready to go.”

In December, Knox County Parks and Recreation crews discovered that thieves stripped the wiring from the ball fields at Gibbs and East Knox parks. The department estimated it would cost more than \$50,000 to fix the damage at both parks.

###