

**PARK DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS
PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 27, 2011**

AGENDA

ROLL CALL

The Board of Park Commissioners met for a special meeting on Tuesday, September 27, 2011, at 5:00 p.m. in the Park District's Board meeting room. Present were Commissioners Bollman, Panzer, and Skarperud. Not present were Commissioners LaDouceur and Soeby.

FOR ACTION

ND PERS INCREASE IN RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTIONS

Superintendent George Hellyer addressed the Board on the ND PERS Retirement plan contribution increase. North Dakota legislature has approved an increase of 2% for January 2012 and 2% for January 2013. Nothing has been added to what was previously reported. The deadline to submit the election form is September 30, 2011 for this increase.

At present, the Park District splits the cost with the employees, with deductions being taken on a pre-tax basis. Hellyer estimated that about 1/3 of the Park District's benefited employees participate in this plan; the other 2/3 are on the old pension plan.

A motion was made by Commissioner Panzer to keep it consistent with what we've done in the past; the increase should be shared, with 1% to be paid by the Park District and 1% to be paid by the employees on a pre-tax basis. Seconded by Commissioner Skarperud; motion carried.

KING'S WALK RATE INCREASE

Commissioner Skarperud reported from the Golf Committee that rather than a big increase every other year; they would like to see a small inflationary increase each year. The percentage of the increase is very similar to last year's. Our rates are still very reasonable when compared to area courses.

A motion was made by Commissioner Skarperud to approve the King's Walk rate increase as proposed. Seconded by Commissioner Panzer; motion carried.

OTHER

TREE ASSESSMENTS

Superintendent George Hellyer addressed the Board with a request for a 2011 tree assessment. There has not been one done for a few years. He stated that Colette LeClerc, Business Manager, has checked and there is still time to accomplish this, to be included, with this year's tax statements.

A special Board meeting would have to be set for the public to attend with any questions or concerns. Suggested dates were October 25th, 26th or 27th.

Director John Staley will get this set up within the time frame suggested.

PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE & REHABILITATION REPORT

Superintendent Bill Palmiscno updated the Board on the recommended steps for the pavement maintenance project. Preliminary opinion of probable construction costs for requested items is from \$650,000 to \$690,000. Lincoln Golf parking lot has been taken out at this time. Also, the School District might be willing to share costs on the property that we shared with them.

The interest at this time is being figured at a rate of 4.25%. Rates are very reasonable and now would be a good time to proceed with this project.

Superintendent George Hellyer would like to move forward with the bonding of this project. He is hoping to have the resolutions completed in time for next week's Board meeting.

Commissioner Panzer would like to see this project proceed with the high-end amount set at \$690,000 so we would be covered for any additional expenses that might show up. He stated that if the cost were to come in over that amount, we would need to prioritize what needs to be done at that time and wait on the rest. Commissioner Skarperud agreed and also gave the OK to proceed with the project.

CENTER COURT FITNESS BUILDING

Commissioner Panzer gave an update on the meeting with Red River Valley Gymnastics on how everything is to be split with the recent sale of Center Court Fitness Club. We are working with Xcel Energy and Century Electric, at this time, to get the cost figures for the split. The Red River Valley Gymnastics committee was not aware of the alarm and security portion of the split. We are still waiting on the numbers to come in, but the estimated cost of the split is anywhere from \$25,000 to \$30,000. They seemed very willing to split the cost with us. Director John Staley has asked our attorney to get everything written up for approval.

A discussion took place on the property itself. The original request for proposal includes the southeast corner of the property between 32nd and the cemetery. The plat does not show this because that area is actually a right-of-way. The new owners would like to place a sign at the area of the gravel crossing that now connects to the cemetery, but have been told there is an easement that would prevent them from doing so. This easement or right-of-way does not pertain just to this area, but to all the property along 32nd Avenue, west of the cemetery.

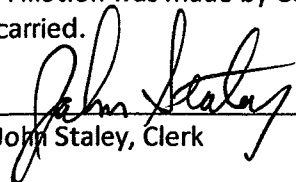
A suggestion was made to submit a letter to the City for a variance to the easement. It was also suggested to contact Dick Olson and verify what is recorded for that area. This needs to be resolved as soon as possible.

LAND SOUTH OF CHOICE HEALTH & FITNESS

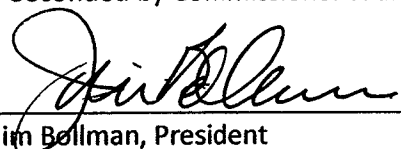
Commissioner Panzer stated that a portion of land south of 47th Avenue South has recently been sold and it would be nice to know what the going price is for land in that area. It might just be good knowledge to have for future reference.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Panzer to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Skarperud; motion carried.



John Staley, Clerk



Jim Bollman, President