

PARK DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS
PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
AUGUST 6, 2013

AGENDA

ROLL CALL

The Board of Park Commissioners met for their monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 6, 2013, in the Park District Board meeting room, 1210 7th Avenue South, at 5:00 p.m. Present were Commissioners Barta, LaDouceur, Panzer, and Skarperud. Commissioner Soeby was not present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JULY 2, 2013

A motion was made by Commissioner Barta to approve the minutes from the July 2, 2013 Board meeting. Seconded by Commissioner LaDouceur; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA

None.

DELEGATES TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD

1. Clover Anderson -- Just For Fun concerns

Clover Anderson appeared before the Board to express her concerns with the Just For Fun program. Clover provided suggestions on how she thought the program could be improved. She would also like to see a procedures policy put into place.

Director Bill Palmiscno will look into what can and cannot be offered through this program, along with the development of a procedures policy.

2. Todd Espelien -- Property behind Choice Health & Fitness

Todd Espelien owns property on Great Plains Court and has lost renters because of the increase in people crossing through his property to get to Choice Health & Fitness. This does cause safety concerns and he would like a fence or natural barrier put in place to help detour traffic from his property.

Director Bill Palmiscno will check with the City on the remaining sidewalk easement in this area. Espelien will be kept abreast on the situation.

FOR DISCUSSION

None.

FOR ACTION

ARENA NAMING RIGHTS AGREEMENT

The latest joint contract for the Arena Naming Rights Agreement with ICON and the Blue Line Club was provided. Term of agreement is for 39 years. Director Bill Palmiscno and Superintendent George Hellyer met with ICON and they have agreed to remove areas indicated, including promotions and name at center ice. A logo would be allowed at center ice. ICON will have access to the arena two nights per year for their own events. Payment schedules were agreed on.

A motion was made by Commissioner Skarperud to approve the naming rights agreement pending the rewritten contract and Attorney Dick Olson's approval. Seconded by Commissioner Barta; motion carried.

CHOICE HEALTH & FITNESS – TENNIS COURT BIDS

Superintendent Tweten stated that only two bids, one from Opp Construction and one from Strata Corporation, were received for the tennis courts at Choice Health & Fitness. These two bids came in quite high and Tweten suggests we rebid the project this fall. Tweten feels by waiting and rebidding for completion next spring, we should be able to get a better price.

A motion was made by Commissioner Skarperud to reject the bids received for the Choice Health & Fitness outdoor tennis courts and to bid the project again this fall or winter. Seconded by Commissioner Barta; motion carried.

REIMBURSEMENT RESOLUTION – ICE ARENA BUILDING

Superintendent George Hellyer provided information on the reimbursement resolution for the ice arena building. Maximum amounts listed. This would allow the Park District to pay for construction costs before we receive the bond proceeds, which basically allows us to borrow from ourselves for a period of time. Once the bond proceeds are received, after the bonds have been authorized and issued, the Park District can then repay itself from the bond proceeds. This is the same process that was used for Choice Health & Fitness.

A motion was made by Commissioner LaDouceur to approve the reimbursement resolution for the ice arena building, not to exceed \$8.5 million. Seconded by Commissioner Skarperud; motion carried.

REIMBURSEMENT RESOLUTION – PARKING LOTS/UTILITIES

Superintendent George Hellyer provided information on the reimbursement resolution for the parking lots/utilities project. This again would allow the Park District to pay for construction costs before we receive the bond proceeds, which basically allows us to borrow from ourselves for a period of time. Once the bond proceeds are received, after the bonds have been authorized and issued, the Park District can then repay itself from the bond proceeds. The maximum reimbursement amount should be changed from \$1,500,000 to \$2,000,000.

Director Bill Palmiscno provided a map of the parking options and recommends the maximum amount to be changed to \$2.0 million.

A motion was made by Commissioner Barta to approve the reimbursement resolution for the parking lots/utilities, not to exceed \$2.0 million. Seconded by Commissioner LaDouceur; motion carried.

PRELIMINARY 2014 BUDGET

Superintendent George Hellyer summarized the preliminary 2014 budget for the Board. The mill levy stayed the same, but the estimated mill value has gone up 6%. A letter will be sent out on the mill levy value increase to select taxpayers as required by the North Dakota State Legislature. Preliminary budget includes the estimated ice arena bond of \$7.4M. A discussion also took place on the General Fund budget carryover. Final approval cannot take place until the September 3rd Board meeting because notices need to go out at least seven days prior to the public meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Skarperud to approve the 2014 Preliminary Budget. Seconded by Commissioner Barta; motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

All reports were accepted as presented.

BILLS TO BE APPROVED FOR JULY 2013

A motion was made by Commissioner LaDouceur, to approve the bills for July in the amount of \$909,401.77 for the Park District. Seconded by Commissioner Skarperud; motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORTS

All reports were accepted as presented.

Superintendent George Hellyer stated that there is an interest in purchasing the ½ acre of land by Red River Valley Gymnastics. This is land that was dedicated for park and open space. The Board stated that fair value is needed for the land. They would also like to know what the land is going to be used for. Hellyer will start by contacting the interested party to see what he thinks is a reasonable price.

Superintendent Cam Tweten provided the Board with a membership overview report of Choice Health & Fitness. Numbers are still very strong. The pool will be closed from August 19th – 23rd for annual maintenance. A meeting will take place on August 19th with EAPC on a few items that need attention. The parking lot with be restriped and signage will also be addressed around the building in the next few weeks. A flaw was found in the HVAC system in regards to one of the chillers, it has been corrected and should save us some electrical expenses in the future. Fall programs will begin the week of September 3rd. A number of new programs are being added to the schedule. There was also a discussion on weekend open hours.

Director Bill Palmiscno made the Board aware of tickets available for the Altru Harvest Gala to take place on September 28th. John Staley's retirement open house was also discussed. Verizon would like to meet on putting a tower at Apollo by diamond #1. Parks/Recreation report showed a current schedule of programs and special events. Elk's pool will close on August 16th and Riverside pool will close August 25th. Total swimmers to date are 25,300. Palmiscno also updated the Board on the City's land purchase interest by Choice Health & Fitness for a fire station. Masonic Park and Choice Health & Fitness playgrounds have been installed. Kiwanis Park shelter, sidewalks and benches have also been installed. Eagles Arena has been cleaned.

King's Walk Golf report showed 15,947 rounds of golf sold through July of this year. It also showed 385 memberships sold to date. Lincoln Golf report showed 10,465 rounds of golf sold through July of this year.

Forestry reported 145 request calls answered, along with 1,078 trees pruned, 38 DED removals, 111 non DED trees removed, and 84 stumps removed. Forestry crew also spent 17 days scouting for DED, and 2 days watering trees.

BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Barta stated that Valley Sports Vision has expressed interest in using the new ice arena facility for their programming. Options will be put together and presented to them for shared space availability.

Commissioner Skarperud reported that the Golf Committee has met and the rates will stay the same for King's Walk, but Lincoln's rates will increase for 2014. Dan Tannahill would like to add a bigger concrete pad for golf cart storage. Also checking on doubling the width of the sidewalks to the homes at King's Walk to accommodate joggers, bikers, rollerbladers, etc. Landscaping was also discussed. A couple of things still need to be checked on before a decision can be made on the patio at King's Walk.

Commissioner LaDouceur inquired about when the No Parking signs are to be put up at Choice Health & Fitness and the location of these signs. He was also wondering about getting a 6-person golf cart/service car for winter to help the seniors and others to and from the facility. LaDouceur also had someone contact him on the closing of the women's locker room at Choice Health & Fitness for repairs. He suggested that signs should be posted prior to such closing of a locker room to better inform customers.

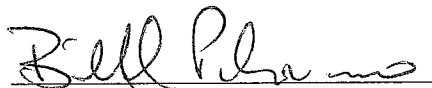
Commissioner Panzer announced that the Grand Forks Parks & Recreation Foundation Board has decided that there will be no Gala held this year.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Skarperud at 6:50 p.m. to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Barta; motion carried.


Bill Palmiscno, Clerk


Jay Panzer, President