# PARK DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS MAY 30, 2023

The Board of Park Commissioners met for a Special Board meeting, a joint meeting with the City of Grand Forks Council Members, on Tuesday, May 30, 2023, at The HIVE, 375 North 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, at 5:00 p.m. with Mayor Bochenski and President Skarperud presiding.

### **ROLL CALL**

Present representing the City of Grand Forks were Mayor Bochenski, President Sande, Council Members Kvamme, Lunski, Osowski, Vein, and Weigel (Zoom). Council Member Weber was absent.

Present representing the Grand Forks Park District were President Skarperud, Vice-President LaDouceur, Commissioners Bartholomew, Kraft, and McIntyre.

Park District staff in attendance were: Executive Director Hellyer, Director of Finance & Administration Lancaster, Director of Operations & Community Relations Nelson, Director of Facilities & Programs Orr, Fitness Manager Langei, Sports & Recreation Manager Rollefstad, and Project Administrator Swenberger.

#### FOR DISCUSSION

# Feasibility Study Project Update - Indoor Sports Facility and Indoor Aquatic Facility

Executive Director Hellyer provided a brief overview of the project, history of the partnership, and introduced the consultant team. Pat O'Toole from BerryDunn was in attendance, Zach Bisek from BRS Architects and Steve Crocker from Water Technology Inc. were present via Zoom to provide an overview of the feasibility study final report. O'Toole provided a summary of the data collection and analysis; he also highlighted the development of an Operations and Maintenance budget for both facilities. Bisek presented a summary of capital cost estimates, emphasizing that pricing is estimated in 2023 dollars. Hellyer presented options for the group to consider including seeking additional funding, reducing the scope of the project, and phasing of the approach to build one facility at a time.

Julie Rygg, Executive Director of Visit Greater Grand Forks, provided an economic impact analysis utilizing data from previous local tournaments. Rygg emphasized the importance of creating an environment in which people want to come and stay in Grand Forks, highlighting sporting events as an ideal way to achieve this. Maureen Storstad, Finance Director for the City of Grand Forks, provided funding scenario analysis, including a 30-year extension of the 0.75% sales tax for the Alerus Center, noting the additional funds that would be necessary and other financial commitments within the community. Discussion took place on the funding needs, projected economic impact, and the cost of operations and maintenance for the facilities. Todd Feland, Grand Forks City Administrator, stated that next steps include following up with local construction and architectural firms, analyzing additional debt scenarios, meeting with user groups to discuss proposed rental rates, and preparation for a public vote on extending the existing sales tax.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Bochenski adjourned the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

Tim Skarperud, President of the Board of Park Commissioners

George Hellyer, Executive Director and Clerk