

PARK DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS  
PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
OCTOBER 2, 2012

AGENDA

ROLL CALL

The Board of Park Commissioners met for their monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 2, 2012, in the Park District Board meeting room at 6:00 p.m. Present were Commissioners Barta, LaDouceur, Panzer, Skarperud, and Soeby.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 4, 2012

A motion was made by Commissioner Soeby to approve the minutes from the September 4, 2012 Board meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Skarperud; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA

Director John Staley requested to meet in Executive Session following the regular business.

A motion was made by Commissioner Soeby to accept the Executive Session meeting request. Seconded by Commissioner LaDouceur; motion carried.

DELEGATES TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD

None.

PUBLIC HEARING

**FINAL 2013 BUDGET**

Superintendent George Hellyer was available to answer questions from the public.

No public present.

**TREE ASSESSMENTS**

Forestry Operations Manager Mike Fugazzi was available to answer questions from the public.

No public present.

FOR DISCUSSION

**2013 ULLAND GRANTS**

Superintendent Bill Palmiscno addressed the Board on the 2013 Ulland Grants which will be accepted until November 6, 2012 and moved for approval at the December Board meeting. Palmiscno also asked the Board to take a look at the amount given each year and decide if they want this to be based on the 80% of interest from the past year or keep the amount more uniform from year to year.

Superintendent George Hellyer addressed the Board on the 2013 Ulland Grant process. Hellyer stated that in the past we have based the amount available on 80% of interest. The amount distributed in Ulland Grant funds in 2012 was \$8,500 and there are \$15,500 funds available for 2013.

Commissioner Panzer stated that he does not think any more than 80% of interest should be used in order to allow the fund to continue to grow. The rest of the Board were in agreement. A discussion took place on how to distribute funds and that it would be nice to fund full amounts requested. The Board will not decide on dollar amounts to be distributed until after all requests are reviewed.

Applicants are asked to have a representative present at the special meeting with the Board of Park Commissioners on Tuesday, November 6, 2012 at 4:00 p.m.

### **FEASIBILITY OF YOUTH BASEBALL/SOFTBALL COMPLEX**

Forks Area Youth Baseball and Softball League (FAYBSL) President Brian Kraft was available to explain the process of studying the feasibility of a fundraising campaign for a new complex to be potentially located at the corner of 55<sup>th</sup> Avenue South and Cherry Street. The complex would have diamonds that would be used for both youth baseball and youth softball. Both Tom Montgomery (baseball) and Charlie Makovsky (softball) were also available for questions.

The 16 year old girls would like to play in a Monday night league, but there are no fields available. The sport has really grown in recent years. If complex is built, it would allow four nights a week for both baseball and softball.

The cost to get some diamonds built and made playable is around \$500,000 to \$750,000, while a first rate complex with turf and all the amenities would be around \$3,000,000. The drawings indicate that around 20 acres of land is needed, but that could be designed differently with four smaller diamonds to begin with.

The Board gave the FAYBSL the go ahead to move forward with the project and find a site. Director John Staley pointed out areas from the 8% land dedication and different options available.

### **REQUEST FOR CURLING PROGRAMMING**

Item was tabled at this time.

### **HEALTHY CONCESSIONS**

Commissioner Soeby announced that the "Achieve Grant" is now called "Take Action a Healthy Greater Grand Forks". She is going to cover only two of the goals set from the Achieve Grant that we received. One of the goals is to increase the Park District sponsored events with healthy food options by fall of 2012 and the second is by January 2013 to have classrooms in the Grand Forks Public Schools follow the policies regarding food in the classrooms program.

Soeby shared a presentation on the need for healthier choices and what is in the plans for helping make this happen here in the Grand Forks area. Their goal is to enhance Park District events with healthier food choices and work with the school programs to provide healthier concession stands.

The presentation highlighted ideas on how to make better choices available. It also showed statistics on obesity and diabetes. The Philadelphia schools have lowered their obesity rate by 5% over the last four years and they attribute this to the policies in the schools. Chicago Park District recently switched to healthier vending in their machines and they tripled their revenue. She also brought samples from a conference she recently attended of what she found in the vending machines of healthier options.

## **PARK VENDING POLICY**

Director John Staley stated that he thinks it is time for the Park District to develop a vending policy. He provided a draft for review which was created by combining parts of both the Lincoln Drive Park Disc Golf concession stand and Eagle's Crest agreements.

The Board felt that there is a need for different policies. One for parks and one for buildings and facilities.

Monies made from these vendors could be put back into the programs. There was a question on whether this would conflict with programs we already run. Minimum insurance liability amounts would also need to be set.

### **FOR ACTION**

#### **FINAL 2013 BUDGET**

Superintendent George Hellyer provided a summary of the final 2013 budget which includes a 1 mill increase. The Pension Fund would increase ¼ mill and Special Assessment Fund would increase ¾ mill.

Even with the 1 mill increase, we are still 4 mills lower than 2005. Each Board increases or lowers the mill as needed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Soeby to approve the final 2013 budget as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Barta; motion carried.

#### **RESOLUTION OF ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX LEVY FOR 2013 – ORDINANCE 175**

Superintendent George Hellyer provided a copy of the Resolution of Annual Appropriations and Tax Levy for 2013, Ordinance No. 175 for review. This ordinance is based on the 2013 budget.

A motion was made by Commissioner Barta to approve the Resolution of Annual Appropriations and Tax Levy for 2013, Ordinance No. 175. Seconded by Commissioner LaDouceur; motion carried.

#### **TREE ASSESSMENTS – APPROVE CERTIFICATION OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS**

Superintendent George Hellyer provided the Board with the Notice of Confirmation of Forestry Tree Assessments in the total sum of \$6,347.37. A copy of these assessments were published in the Grand Forks Herald on Thursday, September 20, 2012.

Forestry Operations Manager Mike Fugazzi was also available to answer any questions and concerns.

A motion was made by Commissioner LaDouceur to approve the certification of tree assessments as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Barta; motion carried.

#### **CHOICE HEALTH & FITNESS GUARANTEED MAXIMUM PRICE**

Superintendent George Hellyer stated that the Choice Health & Fitness building committee is asking to increase the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) due to the change orders Altru has requested for their space. The net cost to the Park District will be zero. Altru will reimburse the Park District for the change orders according to the April 11, 2012 agreement. The change order increase is \$200,000.

A motion was made by Commissioner Skarperud to approve the increase of the GMP price by \$200,000. Seconded by Commissioner Soeby; motion carried.

## **PRAIRIEWOOD PARK DEDICATION AGREEMENT**

Director John Staley provided the Board with a copy of the minutes from the Park Dedication Committee's March 16, 2005 meeting. At this meeting a motion was made and approved to accept cash in lieu of the 8% Park and Open Space Dedication requirement based on actual figures minus the dike acreage amount of the Prairiewood First Addition to be presented to the planning department.

Tim Crary agrees with the need to move to trade land and so we are asking the Board to rescind the motion from 2005 and accept the 8% in land dedication since no money has been received to date.

A motion was made by Commissioner LaDouceur to rescind the motion made on March 16, 2005 and accept the 8% land dedication in lieu of cash for the Prairiewood First Addition. Seconded by Commissioner Skarperud; motion carried.

### **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

All reports were accepted as presented.

Superintendent George Hellyer asked the Board what percent of pledges need to come in for the Ice Arena project before the project can continue.

Commissioner Panzer stated that the cost of the project needs to be set before considering approval. A comparison of expenses versus revenue will need to be provided.

### **BILLS TO BE APPROVED FOR SEPTEMBER 2012**

A motion was made by Commissioner LaDouceur to approve the bills for September in the amount of \$1,462,442.35 for the Park District. Seconded by Commissioner Skarperud; motion carried.

### **SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORTS**

All reports were accepted as presented.

Superintendent Bill Palmiscno reported that the Gambucci and Eagles arenas are open and all four will be open this month. Kiwanis Park will be open by this weekend. Hockey boards have been set up and the Parks Crew is winterizing parks.

Forestry Operations Manager Mike Fugazzi stated that no Emerald Ash Borer has been detected moving west. The Forestry crew has been helping Horticulture with fall preparations.

General Manager Cam Tweten reported on the activities schedule for the fitness facilities. He described the first week as SUCCESSFUL! State High School Tennis Tournaments were held last week with great comments received. Memberships have increased +900 in the last four weeks. Membership rates are still at rate discussed 3-4 years ago. He stated that we need 500 more full-pay memberships to meet our 2013 goal. So far, 72 birthday parties have been scheduled in October.

King's Walk Golf report showed 3,399 rounds of golf for September 2012. Lincoln Golf report showed 1,990 rounds of golf for September 2012.

Forestry reported 81 request calls answered, along with 699 trees pruned, 27 non DED removals, no DED removals, and 47 stumps removed, 6 trees planted with 7 days spent staking. Finished Emerald Ash borer trapping for the season with all traps negative.

## BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Soeby stated that she has a letter from the Parks Recreation Association on the 8% Land Dedication. They are overwhelmed with our community and how the Park District has implemented this into the system. The group was also amazed at the addition of Choice Health & Fitness. She will get a copy sent out. She also commented on Choice Health & Fitness.

Commissioner Skarperud said it has been brought to his attention that it may be time for the Park District to start looking at hiring an IT person, full-time, with the addition of Choice Health & Fitness, the website and technology. In addition, discussion took place to pay off the \$209,000 Community Foundation fee for Choice Health & Fitness.

Director John Staley added that he had received a copy of a letter received by Dick Olson from Mickey Syrquin's attorney on the fence to be moved out at King's Walk. They just got the easement signed to be able to move the fence so it could not be done by the September 30<sup>th</sup> deadline, but will be moved by October 30<sup>th</sup> of this year.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

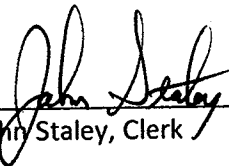
### EMPLOYEE SUCCESSION PLAN

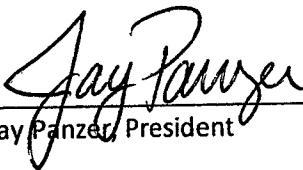
The Board went into executive session to discuss the Park District's Employee Succession Plan at 7:16 p.m.

## ADJOURNMENT

The Board ended executive session with no action taken and reconvened the regular meeting at 7:40 p.m.

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

  
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John Staley, Clerk

  
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Jay Panzer, President