

## JOINT FINANCE/PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 16, 2012

City Hall – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room - East

Finance Chairperson Scott McMeans called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Present: Alderpersons, Scott McMeans, Jason Sladky, Matt Kadow, James Brey, Dave Soeldner, Alex Olson (6:10 PM), Allan Schema, and Collin Braunel.

Absent: Christopher Able

Also Present: Alderperson Jill Hennessey (6:22 PM), Acting Finance Director/Treasurer Tony Scherer, Fleet Manager Kevin Glaeser, Transit & Facilities Manager Jim Muenzenmeyer, Human Resource Director/Risk Manager Deb Geiger (6:20), Director of Public Works/Parks and Recreation/City Engineer Valerie Mellon and two members of the public.

### **Public Input**

Finance Chairman Scott McMeans opened the meeting by inviting anyone wishing to speak to any issues or topics relating to the operation of the City to address the Committees. There was no public input.

### **Request to Construct a Park in the Silveridge Subdivision**

Alderperson Scott McMeans introduced the letter from Northland Associates (Authored by Dan Wergin). He then summarized by stating the plan expressed in the letter was to construct a baseball diamond, tennis courts, soccer field and playground equipment. Northland Associates would front the money for construction and the City would repay the investment with tax increments received from any new taxable housing constructed in the area. The City would be responsible for the maintenance of the park. Alderperson McMeans then turned the meeting over to Alderman Sladky.

Alderman Sladky explained that this matter has been in front of the Parks & Recreation Committee for some time. As part of the original agreement, the City was to provide the developer with a conceptual plan for the parkland. The conceptual park plan was approved by the Park & Recreation Committee in early 2011 (January 4<sup>th</sup>) to maintain the area as green space. Other amenities were discussed but left off the plan as the Committee did not want to commit to projects when there was no plan in place to pay for and maintain the facilities. The City has graded and seeded the area.

Kevin Glaeser then provided information to the Committees regarding maintenance costs, using Red Arrow Park as an example. Discussion followed by the Committee members revisiting the issues and discussions that had taken place in the past including conversation regarding the parkland ordinance and use of parkland fund balance. Committee members also restated the need to equip a number of other new park areas as well as the need to revitalize the equipment and amenities in some of the more established parks. Due to the nature and location of the Silveridge subdivision some members expressed a concern about making an investment in a park that was unlikely to be used by city residents outside of the subdivision.

The Committee then discussed what the cost of the proposed park amenities might be. The Parks & Recreation Department had not investigated costs to this point. The discussion then turned to the need for a parking lot and restroom amenities. Mr. Fessler (public) spoke to the subject, providing some history to the conversation. Additional discussion followed restating much of the conversation that had previously taken place.

Alderson Brey brought up the subject of the \$10,000 donation received for amenities in the Silveridge subdivision park. He inquired whether there were plans for that money at this time or if they are waiting for additional funds to make a bigger investment. Director of Public Works/Parks and Recreation/City Engineer Valerie Mellon stated that their office has been trying to set up a meeting with the key people for quite some time to discuss the project; the wants and needs of the subdivision. Due to a number of scheduling problems and commitments the meeting has not yet occurred.

Motion by Alderson Brey, second by Alderson Kadow to deny the request and place on file. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

Motion by Alderson Sladky, second by Alderson Soeldner to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Chairperson McMeans declared the meeting adjourned at 6:29 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Respectfully Submitted,

Alderman Jason Sladky  
By: Anthony Scherer  
Acting Finance Director

Alderman Scott McMeans  
By: Anthony Scherer  
Acting Finance Director

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