

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

June 8, 2016

Page 1

Members Present:

Frantsvog, Jantzer, Miller, Olson, Seymour.

Members Absent:

None.

Others Present:

City Manager, City Clerk, City Attorney, Finance Director, Recreation/Auditorium Director, Police Chief, HR Director, Jill Schramm, Josh Wolsky, .

To the Honorable Mayor and All Aldermen:

Following are the minutes of the **Community Development Committee** meeting called to order at 12:00 p.m. on June 8, 2016, in the City Council Chambers:

Chairman Olson opened the meeting and instructed the committee that each applicant would be providing information of their request prior to calling for a motion.

City of Minot Recreation Commission and Minot Park District

Scott Collins, the Auditorium Director, spoke on behalf of the application to renovate two existing softball fields at the South Hill Complex. He explained, the women's softball program has grown in popularity over the past few years, increasing to about 300 players in the summer and 500 throughout the school year. The plan is to convert the two fields to turf because it will require less maintenance, will be in better condition for daily use, and can be dedicated to girl's fast pitch from March through September. He stated, the requested funds will pay to get the turf and fencing started. They will also use fundraising to renovate the dugouts, concession areas, scoreboards, bleachers, and field lighting.

Upon questioning by Alderman Olson, Mr. Collins stated, there is \$257,775.96 which was awarded to girls' softball in 2013 and was never spent. They are requesting that it be redirected to this project. The Finance Director confirmed, the funds are held by the City of Minot but are dedicated to the Park District so it must be included in the motion to transfer those funds.

Alderman Miller inquired about the maintenance benefits of using turf instead of grass for the fields. Mr. Collins responded by saying, turf lasts about 10-12 years and might only need replaced in a few high traffic areas, whereas, grass fields require daily maintenance and can be potentially more dangerous due to divots in the ground. There is also better drainage on turf fields. After rainfall, grass could be water damaged and cause long delays but synthetic materials have an under drainage system which makes it ready to play on shortly after a storm.

Alderman Jantzer asked when the current surface was installed and if it is salvageable, to which Mr. Collins responded by saying it was installed about 4 or 5 years ago and yes, there are about 6 inches of agri lime that can be transferred to any of the 14 other fields.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

June 8, 2016

Page 2

Thor Nelson spoke in favor of the application by emphasizing how popular the sport has gotten. He stated, the renovations at the complex could make Minot a premier destination for softball which would attract major tournaments and tourists.

Mitch Lunde, Activities Director for Minot Public Schools, explained his appreciation for the use of the facilities but continued by saying, they could always improve. This is an opportunity for Minot to be a leader in hosting events and encourage people from surrounding cities to visit Minot.

Ron Merritt, Director of the Park District said, it is a joint application between the Park District and Auditorium/Recreation Department. He stated, the Park Board has approved the joint application and the transfer of funds.

Minot Commission on Aging

Roger Reich presented the application for Minot Commission on Aging. He explained, the project will include an office remodel to update the administration area and renovations to make the south entrance handicap accessible. He explained the services they provide, including assistance with Medicare Part D, selling bus passes, and referral services.

Upon questioning by Alderman Jantzer regarding the partnership with a political division, Mr. Reich explained, the Minot Commission on Aging was established by the City in 1973. He presented documentation showing the Mayor and City Council appointed the first board of directors and when the organization moved to the Parker building in 1986, the City passed an ordinance imposing a condition that the title to the building be delivered to the City if its' use is no longer needed. It was stated the organization wants the City as the partnering political subdivision.

City of Minot Police Department and Domestic Violence Crisis Center

Chief Olson explained the program operated by the Minot Police Department and the Domestic Violence Crisis Center. The \$100,000 requested in their application will allow the services to continue while saving man hours for the Police Department. He explained, there has been a 30% increase in domestic violence calls over the past five years and without the collaboration with the Domestic Violence Crisis Center, services would not be adequately provided.

Dena Filler, a representative from DVCC, described how their cooperation with the Minot Police Dept. allows them to reach out to victims, track offender's history, provide training, teach skills, and empower victims.

Alderman Miller asked what other funding sources they currently have leveraged, to which Ms. Filler replied by saying, they receive Federal, State, and County funding as well as donations from private donors. She added, however, the organization still faces challenges regarding their building debt.

Dionne Spooner, the President of DVCC explained they have expanded their services and provide assistance to anyone in need. She stated, their budget continues to grow based on needs and it is

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

June 8, 2016

Page 3

necessary to assist the Police Dept. due to increased instances of violence.

Minot Family YMCA

Cindy Mueller, from the YMCA came forward to describe their application. They are requesting funds to add an outdoor volleyball court to the Community Outdoor Fitness Park. She explained, they came to this conclusion based on responses of an assessment survey and the popularity of their current volleyball league.

Alderman Olson requested clarification on the amount requested from the Community Development fund, to which Ms. Mueller responded by saying, they are requesting \$15,000.

1. The City Council approve the allocation of Community Facility Tax Funds to the City of Minot Recreation Commission and Minot Park District in the amount of \$1,742,224 and authorize the transfer of \$257,775.96 from girls' softball to the fast pitch diamonds project.

Alderman Miller moved the City Council approve the allocation of Community Facility Tax Funds to the City of Minot Recreation Commission and Minot Park District in the amount of \$1,742,224 and authorize the transfer of \$257,775.96 from girls' softball to the fast pitch diamonds project.

Motion seconded by Alderman Frantsvog and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Frantsvog, Jantzer, Miller, Seymour. nays: none.

2. The City Council approve the allocation of Community Facility Tax Funds in the amount of \$135,000 to the Minot Commission on Aging.

Alderman Jantzer moved the City Council approve the allocation of Community Facility Tax Funds in the amount of \$135,000 to the Minot Commission on Aging. Motion seconded by Alderman Seymour.

Alderman Jantzer asked the City Attorney if the approval of the application requires a partnership or if the existing enterprise agreement is sufficient. The City Attorney responded by saying, since enterprise agreement has been entered into before, she will need to review it and make a recommendation.

Motion seconded by Alderman Seymour and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Frantsvog, Jantzer, Miller, Seymour. nays: none.

3. The City Council approve the allocation of Community Facility Tax Funds in the amount of \$100,000 to the City of Minot Police Department and Domestic Violence Crisis Center.

Alderman Miller moved the City Council approve the allocation of Community Facility Tax Funds in the amount of \$100,000 to the City of Minot Police Department and Domestic Violence Crisis Center.

Motion seconded by Alderman Jantzer and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Frantsvog, Jantzer, Miller, Seymour. nays: none.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

June 8, 2016

Page 4

4. The City Council consider the application for Community Facility Tax Funds submitted by the Minot Family YMCA without a recommendation from the Community Development Committee.

Alderman Miller moved the City Council consider the application for Community Facility Tax Funds submitted by the Minot Family YMCA without a recommendation from the Community Development Committee. Motion seconded by Alderman Seymour.

Alderman Frantsvog questioned the application's eligibility based on discussions after their previous award.

The City Attorney stated, an ad hoc committee was formed in 2014 to define the term "community facility." That committee forwarded, and the City Council approved, the following definition, which should be used as a guidance tool for the committee and City Council: "A community facility would fill a need by the community, and it should be owned and operated by a political subdivision. If non-profit groups are to be eligible, they should be limited to partnership projects with political subdivisions, not stand alone non-profit projects. Local control is the main concern on any project funded, and true benefit to the community."

Alderman Frantsvog stated, an application from the Domestic Violence Crisis Center was denied last year due to the same reasons.

The City Attorney said, the definition is a guideline and it is up to the Committee and City Council to determine how they would like to proceed.

Whereupon a vote was taken on the motion by Alderman Miller, seconded by Alderman Seymour and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes:, Jantzer, Miller, Seymour. nays: Frantsvog.

There being no further business, Chairman Olson adjourned the Committee meeting at 12:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Matalka
City Clerk