

COUNCIL WORK SESSION – SEPTEMBER 29, 2015

The work session of the Common Council of the City of Marshall was held on September 29, 2015 in the Professional Development Room at the Marshall Middle School, 401 South Saratoga Street. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 P.M. by Mayor Byrnes. In addition to Byrnes the following members were present: Schafer, Doom, Bayerkohler, DeCramer, Sturrock and Conyers. Absent: none. Staff present included: Ben Martig, City Administrator; Rob Yant, Director of Public Safety; Harry Weilage, Director of Community Services; Glenn Olson, Director of Public Works/City Engineer; and Thomas M. Meulebroeck, Finance Director/City Clerk.

CONSIDER PURCHASE OF MERIT CENTER SIMULATORS:

Ben Martig, City Administrator and Rob Yant, Director of Public Safety, addressed the request to purchase Simulators with Ti Training for the MERIT Center. The request was for a Doron 550LEplus Basic Professional Simulator for \$121,650.00 and a Ti TL100 Shooting Simulator for \$42,000.00 plus various related components for a total cost of \$214,605.00. The training programs and the potential revenues for the use of the simulators was discussed.

DeCramer moved, Schafer seconded, to authorize the purchase from Ti Training for the MERIT Center Simulator and related components for \$214,605.00. This will be paid from account number 455-50551-5540. All voted in favor of the motion, except Bayerkohler who voted no.

CONSIDER PURCHASE OF LIQUOR STORE EQUIPMENT:

Ben Martig, City Administrator, reviewed a proposal received from AA Equipment Co., in the amount of \$46,054.21 for shelving at the new Municipal Liquor Store. Ben also provided an update on the construction progress of this project.

Schafer moved, Doom seconded, to approve the purchase from AA Equipment Co., for the shelving at the Liquor Store in the amount of \$46,054.21. All voted in favor of the motion, except Bayerkohler who voted no.

DISCUSS LEGION FIELD BASEBALL FIELD AND TENNIS COURT PROJECT FOR 2015-2016:

The City is currently completing a lighting upgrade at Legion Park that includes relocating two light towers. The one light tower had been an obstruction in the current design which is why there is an extension into the field for the right outfield foul line area. The existing right field fence is less than ideal from a play standpoint and also can add additional safety hazards for players going for foul balls that may not be accustomed to the short side fence. Therefore, staff is suggesting a relocation of the fence to better align the field. There would also need to be a corresponding re-alignment of the pitching bullpen.

A re-alignment of the right field fence would require removal of three tennis courts. First, the condition of the overall tennis court surface condition are below average and in need of maintenance. The fencing is in good condition. The courts do get utilized by tennis and the emerging pickleball players for recreational purposes. However, with the addition of the high school tennis courts it is apparent that usage does not warrant six courts. Staff has discussed with the school district and there is concurrence to this effect.

Staff is suggesting to begin the re-alignment of the fencing and bullpen this fall. This will require

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some demolition and staff maintenance. If the City does wait to do this project it would have to complete it in the Fall of 2016 after the season is completed.

Staff provided 4 alternative plans which were:

2016 Alternate A - Recommended

Justification: extend outfield for baseball safety and preferred play, removes foul ball hazard for 3 courts, maintain 3 usable courts for tennis/pickelball.

Scope: Proposed demolition and site work by City staff 2015 weather and time permitting. See attached Capital Improvement Plan. Proposed change to reduce to 3 tennis courts versus reducing to 4. If the City waits and does not move the field this fall the project will need to wait at least until Fall 2016 due to impact to the baseball field operation.

Fiscal Impact: New Fencing estimate \$30,000.

Recommendation: Allow staff to proceed with this as a minimum project for 2015. Pursue funding from CIP reserves for fence and rest is covered in maintenance budget. Review ability to complete the remaining scope in the 2016 budget review

2016 Alternate B – “Ideal”

Justification: extend outfield for baseball safety and preferred play, removes foul ball hazard for 3 courts, raise & resurface 3 usable courts for tennis/pickelball (good drainage, quality surface), improve accessibility with new sidewalk and better access into the courts and ballfield.

Scope: Project would be completed in 2016. Staff would evaluate city doing demolition and sidewalk for cost savings, contract out courts at a minimum.

Fiscal Impact: Add new fencing \$30,000. Tennis court reconstruction estimate \$100,000, Sidewalk reconstruction cost unknown.

Recommendation: Staff would complete the ballfield extension & bullpen in 2015. Review this in priorities of other projects during 2016 budget process. May need to add into the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for future year project 2017-2020.

2016 Alternate C

Justification: extend outfield for baseball safety and preferred play, removes foul ball hazard for 3 courts, sidewalk would improve accessibility to the ballfields.

Scope: Staff would complete the ballfield extension & bullpen in 2015. Other demolition would be reviewed for completion in 2015 or 2016. Sidewalk construction would be completed in 2016. City staff would evaluate city doing demolition and sidewalk for cost savings.

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Fiscal Impact: Add new fencing \$30,000, Sidewalk reconstruction cost unknown.

Recommendation: Not recommended. Staff would at least suggest leaving the existing courts while long-term plans are evaluated in order to determine community interest in maintaining courts.

2015 Alternate D

Justification: extend outfield for ballfield safety and preferred play, removes foul ball hazard for 3 courts.

Scope: Staff would complete the ballfield extension & bullpen in 2015. Other demolition would be reviewed for completion in 2015 or 2016. Sidewalk construction would be completed in 2016.

Fiscal Impact: Add new fencing \$30,000.

Recommendation: Not recommended. Staff would at least suggest leaving the existing courts while long-term plans are evaluated in order to determine community interest in maintaining courts

Doom moved, Sturrock seconded, to proceed with 2016 Alternate "A to allow staff to proceed with this as a minimum project for 2015. Pursue funding from CIP reserves for fence and rest is covered in maintenance budget. Review ability to complete the remaining scope in the 2016 budget review. All voted in favor of the motion.

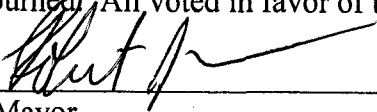
OVERVIEW OF 2016 GENERAL FUND BUDGET:

Ben Martig, City Administrator, facilitated with the assistance of Glenn Olson, Director of Public Works/City Engineer and Rob Yant, Director of Public Safety a discussion on the City's Organization Chart. Ben addressed some of the proposed changes with staffing in the Finance/Clerk's Department and the Administration Department. It was indicated for 2016 that the Police Department was requesting two (2) full time positions and a reduction in part time from two (2) to one (1) positions. The Municipal Building Maintenance Department budget for 2016 included an additional full time position with part time being reduced from three (3) to two (2) positions.

Ben addressed some changes within the General Fund Budget for 2016. Highlighted were: Utilities, Property/Liability Insurance, Wages, Health Insurance, Dental Insurance and Fuel. There was a discussion on the operation and usage of the Red Baron Arena and Expo.

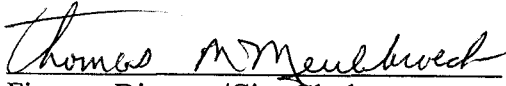
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Schafer moved, Doom seconded, the meeting be adjourned. All voted in favor of the motion.



Mayor

ATTEST:



Finance Director/City Clerk