



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Council Session

Item E5

**Public Hearing on Acquisition of all Real Estate Property Located
in the Block Bordered by Walnut, Cedar, Koenig, and Charles
Streets**

Staff Contact: Doug Walker

Council Agenda Memo

From: Douglas R. Walker, City Attorney

Meeting: June 22, 2004

Subject: Public Hearing on the Acquisition of Lots 1 through 8, Fractional Block 104, Railroad Addition and its Compliment Fractional Block 104, Koenig and Wiebe's Addition to the City of Grand Island, Hall County, Nebraska

Item #'s: E-5 & I-3

Presenter(s): Douglas R. Walker, City Attorney

Background

At the June 15, 2004, study session held by the Grand Island City Council, the Grand Island Fire Department made a presentation regarding the sites that it is interested in acquiring for constructing a new fire station to replace Fire Station #1. At the conclusion of that meeting the consensus of the Council seemed to be that the site proposed by the Fire Department, which is bordered on the north by Koenig Street on the south by Charles Street on the west by Cedar Street and on the east by Walnut Street, was the best site for the proposed fire station. There are numerous individual single family homes on this block and the owners will need to be contacted individually once an appraisal has been done to establish a value for the properties. Once a price has been negotiated for the acquisition of the properties, a purchase agreement will need to be prepared for approval by the City Council to acquire the properties.

Before the City can acquire the property, a public hearing is necessary for the purpose of seeking Council approval for proceeding with the acquisition of the real estate. Item I-3 on the agenda is a resolution authorizing the city to proceed with acquisition of this property through a negotiated purchase if possible, or through condemnation if necessary.

Discussion

The city is interested in purchasing this real estate for a fire station for the following reasons:

1. This property is located so that the response times in the area that it will be serving will be the best to provide emergency services to the community.
2. Access to the site from the streets in the area is desirable and will allow for ingress and egress of fire trucks and other equipment from the facility to the area which it will be serving.
3. Locating the property at this site will allow for utilizing the facilities to the greatest extent since it is closer to more densely populated areas of the community.

For the above mentioned reasons city administration is seeking City Council approval of the resolution for the acquisition of the real estate on the above described block.

Alternatives

After the public hearing, it appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Council may:

1. Approve the resolution authorizing the city to acquire this real estate.
2. Disapprove or /Deny the resolution authorizing the acquisition of the real estate.
3. Modify the resolution to meet the wishes of the Council
4. Table the issue

Recommendation

City Administration recommends that the Council approve the resolution authorizing the city to acquire the above referenced real estate.

Sample Motion

Approve the resolution authorizing the acquisition of Fractional Block 104 in Railroad Addition and Fractional Block 104 in Koenig and Wiebe's Addition to the City of Grand Island, Hall County, Nebraska.

