

City of Grand Island

Tuesday, November 27, 2007 Council Session

Item E4

Public Hearing Concerning Acquisition and Conveyance of Property Located on the South Boundary Line of the Webb Road Soccer Field (Funk, LLC)

Staff Contact: Steve Paustian

City of Grand Island City Council

Council Agenda Memo

From: Steve Paustian, Park and Recreation Director

Meeting: November 27, 2007

Subject: Acquisition and Conveyance of Property Located on the

South Boundary Line of the Webb Road Soccer Field

(Funk, LLC)

Item #'s: E-4 & F-4 & G-12

Presenter(s): Steve Paustian, Park and Recreation Director

Background

The City of Grand Island acquired land from the Burlington Northern Railroad when it abandoned the Beltline spur over 30 years ago. This narrow strip of land was used by the railroad to supply the former Johnson Cashway Lumber Company with product. The east half of the land, currently owned by the City, being considered for the swap has been maintained by Johnson Cashway or its successors since the City acquired the land from Burlington Northern. Several years ago the City purchased the former Webb Salebarn property for future Cemetery development. It is currently being used as athletic fields. During the construction of the athletic fields it was necessary to develop a detention cell to catch run-off from the fields as storm sewer is unavailable for this property. The detention cell as constructed impacts the west end of the proposed land swap and is difficult to maintain given the existing property line.

Discussion

City staff was approached by Funk LLC to see if a land swap would be possible. After reviewing the request it is the opinion of the City that the swap as proposed, is for land of equal value and, in effect, would represent the true use of the land by the two parties today.

Alternatives

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Council may:

- 1. Move to approve
- 2. Refer the issue to a Committee
- 3. Postpone the issue to future date
- 4. Take no action on the issue

Recommendation

City Administration recommends that the Council agree to the land swap.

Sample Motion

Move to allow for the exchange of land between the City of Grand Island and Funk LLC.



