



# City of Grand Island

Tuesday, August 09, 2011

Council Session

## Item G3

### **Approving Request of Fonner Park Exposition and Events Center, Inc. (Heartland Events Center) for Ratification of Election of Board of Directors**

*At the December 21, 1998 City Council Meeting, Resolution #98-332 was adopted supporting the application of Fonner Park to the Internal Revenue Service for a 501(c)(3) exemption for construction and operation of an Exposition and Events Center. This approval created the formation of the Fonner Park Exposition and Events Center, Inc. The Internal Revenue Service requires the election of the members of the Board of Directors of Fonner Park Exposition and Events Center, Inc. be ratified by the Grand Island City Council. The appointments of Jim Cannon, Steve Dowding, Barry Sandstrom, Roger Luebbe, and Scott Zana to the Board of Directors for the Fonner Park Exposition and Events Center, Inc. are recommended.*

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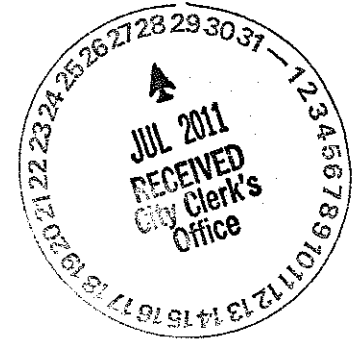
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A.J. LUEBS (1903-1996)

July 28, 2011

Mayor Jay Vavricek  
City Hall Building  
100 E. First Street  
P.O. Box 1968  
Grand Island, NE 68802



Re: Fonner Park Exposition and Events Center, Inc.

Dear Mayor Vavricek:

Please have the City Clerk of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska place the following matter on the agenda of the meeting of the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska scheduled for August 9, 2011:

"Fonner Park Exposition and Events Center, Inc./Ratification of Election of Board of Directors"

On July 27, 2011, the following persons were elected as directors of the Fonner Park Exposition and Events Center, Inc.:

Jim Cannon  
Steve Dowding  
Barry Sandstrom  
Roger Luebbe  
Scott Zana

The Fonner Park Exposition and Events Center, Inc. is a nonprofit corporation formed under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code for the purposes of lessening the burdens of government. Specifically, the Fonner Park Exposition and Events Center, Inc. was formed to lessen the burdens of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska in planning, constructing and operating an agricultural exposition and events center in the City of Grand Island, Nebraska.

Mayor Jay Vavricek  
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As a condition to obtaining exemption under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, the Internal Revenue Service required that the following provisions be included in the Bylaws of Fonner Park Exposition and Events Center, Inc.:

- (1) The Mayor of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska nominates one (1) member of the Board of Directors of Fonner Park Exposition and Events Center, Inc.; and
- (2) The election of the members of the Board of Directors of Fonner Park Exposition and Events Center, Inc. is submitted to the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska for ratification.


Because Fonner Park Exposition and Events Center, Inc. was formed for the purpose of lessening the burdens of government, the Internal Revenue Service imposed the foregoing requirements on Fonner Park Exposition and Events Center, Inc. so that there would be an opportunity for oversight by the City of Grand Island, Nebraska in regard to the election of directors of Fonner Park Exposition and Events Center, Inc.

As you know, you nominated Scott Zana as a member of the Board of Directors of Fonner Park Exposition and Events Center, Inc. in compliance with the requirements of (1) above. The election of the members of the Board of Directors of Fonner Park Exposition and Events Center, Inc. should now be submitted to the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska for ratification in compliance with the requirements of (2) above.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

LEININGER, SMITH, JOHNSON,  
BAACK, PLACZEK & ALLEN

  
MICHAEL L. JOHNSON  
MLJ/eje

cc: Ms. RaNae Edwards, City Clerk  
Mr. Hugh Miner, Jr.