

CITY OF GREAT FALLS, MONTANA
AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA # 1
DATE October 7, 2003

ITEM Sale of park land – Block 1 and 2, Park Place Addition

INITIATED BY Park & Recreation Department

ACTION REQUESTED Conduct Public Hearing and approve sale

PREPARED AND PRESENTED BY Jerry Sepich, Director Park & Recreation

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RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Commission conduct a public hearing and, barring significant protest, approve the sale of the park land Block 1 and 2, Park Place Addition in the amount of \$60,252 to Plains Grains Limited Partnership.

MOTION:

“I move the City Commission approve the sale of surplus park land – Block 1 and 2, Park Place Addition for \$60,252 to Plains Grains Limited Partnership.”

SYNOPSIS:

As required by Chapter 3.04 OCCGF, the City advertised the sale of the park property. The minimum acceptable bid was \$56,000 (\$55,000 appraisal price, plus \$1,000 administration and closing costs).

The City received two bids on this park land. The highest bid of \$60,252 was received from Plains Grains Limited Partnership, Robert Lassila, President.

BACKGROUND:

Chapter 3.04 OCCGF identifies the process regarding the sale of real property, including park land. The City is required to obtain an appraisal of the property and solicit bids, with the minimum acceptable bid based on the appraisal value of the property. Such sale requires a public hearing and approval by a majority vote of the City Commission.

The Comprehensive Park and Recreation Master Plan, approved in 1995, identified Block 1 and 2, Park Place Addition as surplus park property and recommended these properties be sold. The plan further recommended that if there is interest by neighboring residents in developing the park, the City should not sell the property for a period of one (1) year to allow the residents the opportunity to develop plans for the improvements. No such interest from the neighbors of the subject property has been expressed.

On May 6, 2003 the City Commission authorized staff to initiate the sale process on this property. The Park and Recreation Board at its April 8, 2003 meeting approved the sale and recommended the City Commission authorize the sale.

Money received from the sale of surplus park property is placed in the Park Trust to be used for future developments of existing parks.