



Item: Sale of City Owned Park Land: Blocks 21 and 22 of Highland Park Addition

From: Marty Basta, Park and Recreation Director

Initiated By: Park and Recreation Department

Presented By: Marty Basta, Park and Recreation Director

Action Requested: Set a Public Hearing

Suggested Motion:

1. Commissioner moves:

“I move that the City Commission set a public hearing for the consideration of the sale of Highland Park property for June 3, 2008.”

2. Mayor calls for a second, discussion, inquiries from the public, and calls the vote.

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends that the City Commission se a public hearing for the consideration of the sale of Highland Park property for June 3, 2008.

Background: The City of Great Falls, according to Chapter 3.04 OCCGF, established a fair market value for the Highland Park property, based on an appraisal prepared in accordance with Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practices. The 2.7 acre parcel was appraised at \$.35 a square foot for a total appraised value of \$40,000. The Highland Park property is outside of the City limits, has no utilities and has had a history of maintenance issues associated with illegal dumping and off-road vehicle usage.

Concurrences: The Park and Recreation Advisory Board approved the sale of the 2.7 acre undeveloped Highland Park property at their January 14, 2008 meeting and approved use of the proceeds to fund water slides, benches and trees at the Jaycee and Water Tower neighborhood swimming pools. These amenities were removed from the original pool rehabilitation contract due to a funding shortfall.

Fiscal Impact: A legal notice was posted in the Great Falls Tribune on Tuesday April 20, requesting sealed bids from buyer’s interested in purchasing the property. A minimum bid of \$40,000, the appraised value was set. Bids were opened on April 30, 2008 with three bidders

responding to the request. One bidder failed to submit the required bid bond, subsequently that bidder was disqualified. The highest bid received was from Williamson fencing & Sprinklers, \$55,001.

Alternatives: Reject the bids for the purchase of the Highland Park property.

Attachments/Exhibits: 1. January 14, 2008 excerpt from Park Board minutes
2. Bid Tabulation Summary