



MAYOR & COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

DATE: October 7, 2014
CONSENT
ITEM# 9

AGENDA ITEM: Pebble Park Volleyball Court

SUBMITTED BY: Alyssa MacLeod, Taxpayer Relations & Communications Coordinator

THROUGH: Dean Zuleger, City Administrator

REVIEWED BY: Park Commission

SUGGESTED ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- Introduction of Item City Administrator
- Report/Presentation.....City Administrator
- Questions from Council to Staff Mayor Facilitates
- Call for Motion Mayor & City Council
- Discussion Mayor & City Council
- Action on Motion..... Mayor Facilitates

POLICY RECOMMENDER: Park Commission

FISCAL IMPACT: Not to exceed \$28,509.31 in parkland dedication funds

SUMMARY AND ACTION REQUESTED:

As part of its Consent Agenda, the City Council is asked to authorize the expenditure of parkland dedication funds, not to exceed \$28,509.31, to purchase materials and construct a volleyball court in Pebble Park. If removed from the consent agenda, the recommended motion for this action is as follows:

“Move to approve the expenditure of no more than \$28,509.31 in parkland dedication funds for the purchase and construction of a volleyball court in Pebble Park.”

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The construction of a volleyball court in Pebble Park was brought to council at the August 5, 2014 meeting. In response to council’s request for more information before approving the proposal, the park commission would like to present the following facts supporting the selection of Pebble Park for the location, and the need/demand for a double court in this area.

Facts supporting the selection of Pebble Park as the location:

1. The preferred location would be to construct the court in the downtown area, near the original court in Lions Park. Upon evaluation, the location was deemed unfeasible, due to drainage issues, and lack of space near the existing court.
2. Reid Park was considered for placement, and it was determined that a court would not fit within the land currently available in the park.
3. Pebble is already equipped with water and additional site needs

Facts supporting need/demand:

1. During the summer months, the existing volleyball court in Lions Park is used at least twice per week.
2. Grassroots interest in volleyball is increasing nationwide. Sand/beach volleyball is one of only a few team sports that is showing positive growth over the last five years per the 2013 Sports & Fitness Industry Association's Topline Report. Five-year growth rates of 2.5% among core participants and 4.9% among casual participants are eclipsed only by Lacrosse.
3. Double volleyball courts (as opposed to single courts) are needed for team practices, and tend to draw more users, as there is a better likelihood that playing space will be available.
4. There is an economy of scale and cost savings building a double court vs. a single court.
5. There are currently only three volleyball courts located in the East Metro between Lake Elmo and Lake Phalen in St. Paul.

The Lake Elmo Park Commission is recommending the construction of a double sand volleyball court at Pebble Park. The commission had considered adding the court as a second phase of improvements to the park (first phase improvements including play structures, shelter approved at the July 1, 2014 council meeting). Considering construction time and additional monies being added to the parkland funds with ongoing development, the commission is proposing that the volleyball court be added in 2014 as part of the first phase improvements.

The park commission initially recommended a not-to-exceed amount of \$20,000, based on generic cost speculation. As itemized costs were obtained, it was realized that \$20,000 would not be adequate, with the initial bid totaling \$28,509.31 (see attachment 1 & 2). Staff, with support from the park commission, is recommending that the not-to-exceed amount be increased to \$28,509.31 with the understanding that staff will look for opportunities to reduce costs by completing some of the site prep in-house.

Approval would allow for the site prep to be completed in fall 2014

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff is recommending that the City Council authorizes the expenditure of parkland dedication funds, not to exceed \$28,509.31, to purchase materials and construct a volleyball court in Pebble Park. If removed from the consent agenda, the recommended motion for this action is as follows:

“Move to approve the expenditure of no more than \$28,509.31 in parkland dedication funds for the purchase and construction of a volleyball court in Pebble Park.”

ATTACHMENT:

1. Cost estimate for site prep
2. Cost estimate for equipment