

Meeting Minutes

Special Finance Committee Minutes

December 15, 2003 AT 6:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Chairman Barr, Alderpersons Walther, Rackow, Molski, Phillips

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Wescott, C/T Schlice, Clerk Zdroik, Alderpersons Sevenich, Markham, Seiser, Sowieja, Stroik, Moore; Gene Kemmeter (Portage County Gazette)

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1. Della Street acquisition.

2. Adjournment.

1. Della Street acquisition

C/T Schlice said this is a request for funding the acquisition of property on Della Street. Last April, the Council approved funding the property acquisition at 25%, estimated to be about \$84,000. The request as shown in a memo from Director Gardner is \$75,710 as the City's share. This amount will come out of the land acquisition fund which has a current balance of \$79,000.

Ald. Phillips noted that about eight months ago it was said the DNR was going to take care of half of the acquisition cost and the city and Audubon Society will take care of the other half. The Alderman is wondering what happened to that formula?

C/T Schlice said of the total amount of \$281,000, \$140,500 is coming from the DNR and the balance is from other accounts. The Audubon Society included in its portion the value of the land donated by Jay Erickson.

Kent Hall, 200 Pine Bluff Road, said the grant was written by the Audubon Society so any kind of donation will go to Audubon. Mr. Hall went on to say that the Audubon Society's intention is that when financing is done, the property will be deeded to the city. He said basically Audubon has been responsible for raising \$206,000 of the \$281,000, with \$140,500 coming from the DNR. The value of the donated land from Mr. Erickson is \$61,000 not \$56,000 as shown in Director Gardner's memo. Mr. Hall added the Audubon has to come up with \$8,790 from cash donations, which he said the Audubon has already raised. Improvements to the site of approximately \$18,106 will be the responsibility of the Audubon.

Ald. Rackow moved, Ald. Molski seconded, to approve the city share of \$75,710 for the Della Street acquisition with money coming out of the land acquisition account.

Ald. Phillips asked if this is in the 2004 budget?

C/T Schlice said it is in the 2003 budget.

C/T Schlice said the property will be left in its natural state so no maintenance from the Park Department is needed.

Ald. Markham thanked Mr. Hall for all the hard work he has done for this project.

Mr. Hall said this is a cooperative effort between the DNR, the city, and the Audubon Society.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

2. Adjournment - 6:35 P.M.

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