

Minot Park Board  
Special Park Board Meeting  
July 9, 2019

Members present were: Chuck Emery, Perry Olson, Mike Schmitt, Cliff Hovda and Steve Wharton. Ron Merritt and Elly DesLauriers were also present.

President Emery opened the meeting to discuss the land next to the MAYSA Arena.

Executive Director, Ron Merritt review the agreement for a total price of \$1.3 Million.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Olson to purchase the property in the amount of \$1.3 Million.

Discussion was held.

Commissioner Olson reported he believes this is a good planning decision on behalf of the Minot Park District. The area may not grow in two years or ten years but by purchasing the land it gives the district options for expansion in the future.

Commissioner Hovda reported he was only involved in the first part of the negotiations. Hovda believes this property has some value to the park district but not at this cost. Hovda reminded the board they are elected officials and as such they have a financial responsibility and does not believe the purchasing of this property reflects that.

Commissioner Schmitt commented that understand the responsibility of being an elected official and a good steward of taxpayer dollars. This land is available now and for the possible future planning of a fourth rink, aquatics center, and field house this is a good purchase for the park district. In purchasing this land the park district is securing land in an area they already have a presence and staffing.

Commissioner Wharton reported that after seeing what could be done with the land and fit in the footprint of the land he is for the purchase of the property. Wharton reported the public forums were full of individuals asking for more areas of indoor recreation that would fit into this location and it all goes along with our five-year plan. Wharton believes the homework has been done in order to move forward with the purchase of this property.

Commissioner Emery explained that the Outdoor Recreation area and future golf course site has been master planned to the full extent of the acreage.

Executive Director, Ron Merritt stated the property was being purchased from Sandman Partnership, LLC.

Commissioner Schmitt responded that it would be more expensive to build a fourth rink in a different location when you include ice plant costs and mobilization.

On roll call, Hovda-no, Schmitt-yes, Olson-yes, Wharton-yes, Emery-yes. Motion carried.

Executive Director, Ron Merritt explained they will work the Minot Park District Attorney, Pete Hankla and the current property owner on the current tenants of the property.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Chuck Emery, President

Elly DesLauriers, Clerk