



**Council
Communication**
Office of the City Manager

Date

July 10, 2006

Agenda Item No. 76

Roll Call No. 06-

Communication No. 06-444

Submitted by: Donald M. Tripp, Park and Recreation Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving acceptance of improvements at the James W. Cownie Baseball Park.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval to accept the improvements at James W. Cownie Baseball Park. Engineering and Park and Recreation staff have inspected the James W. Cownie Baseball Park and have received a letter from Polk County Engineer, Kurt D. Bailey that the improvements were constructed in conformance with the plans and specifications.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$1.8 million dollar capital improvement (donated)

Funding Source: Park and Recreation Department—Sports Turf Maintenance GE001 PKS070700, page 182 (FY06 Operating Budget).

The funds for the construction of the baseball park were provided through a combined private fundraising campaign co-chaired by Jim Cownie and Polk County Supervisor John Mauro. Staff anticipates the cost to operate and maintain the James W. Cownie Baseball Park will be approximately \$225,000 over the next three years. The sources of these operating funding are anticipated as follows:

South Des Moines Little League Lease	\$50,000
Greater Des Moines Baseball Foundation	\$75,000
Concession and rental income	\$25,000
City of Des Moines	\$75,000

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

On March 28, 2005, the Des Moines City Council entered into a 28E Agreement with Polk County and the Greater Des Moines Community Foundation to provide for the design, financing and construction of the James W. Cownie Baseball Park.

The terms and conditions set forth in the 28E Agreement include:

1. Approval of the final payment by the Foundation for all construction contracts;
2. Certification by the County Engineer that all of the improvements have been built in accordance with the plans and specifications approved by the City;
3. Documentation by the County Engineer that all construction contracts have been paid in full, and any acceptance by the Polk County Board of Supervisors, if necessary; and
4. Verification of the City Engineer that the project has been completed in compliance with the plans and specifications approved by the City.

The City Engineer received the letter from Polk County's Engineer certifying that the construction of the improvements is in conformance with the plans and specifications of the project. During the final acceptance inspection, there were a number of minor items to be corrected. These items will be corrected by the County, Parks personnel or donated contractor work with coordination between the County and the City. Additionally, the 28E Agreement calls for the City to enter into a Lease Agreement with the South Des Moines Little League for the use of this facility upon acceptance by the City.

The City has entered into a thirty (30) day Maintenance Agreement (Purchase Order) not to exceed \$10,000 with the Greater Des Moines Baseball Co. to provide horticultural care of the improvements. Additionally the Greater Des Moines Baseball Co. has agreed to maintain the baseball park for the remainder of the year for \$30,000, of which the above \$10,000 purchase order will be applied. The above mentioned Maintenance Agreement for the baseball park will come before the Des Moines City Council at their July 24, 2006, Council meeting as an addendum to the existing Maintenance Agreement for the James W. Cownie Soccer Park. Funds for this service will come from existing operating funds within the Park and Recreation Department's operating budget (Athletics and Sports Tourism PKS100400). Staff anticipates that these funds will be replaced with funds received by the South Des Moines Little League Lease and a contribution from the Greater Des Moines Baseball Foundation.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: March 28, 2005

Roll Call Number: 05-737

Action: Intergovernmental 28E Agreement with Polk County and Greater Des Moines Community Foundation for development of Soldiers Field for South Des Moines Little League Baseball Park. ([Council Communication No. 05-150](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

Date:

Roll Call Number:

Action:

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

