



# Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date July 13, 2009

Agenda Item No. 74  
Roll Call No. 09-  
Communication No. 09-487  
Submitted by: Donald M. Tripp  
Park and Recreation Director

## AGENDA HEADING:

Lease Agreement for dock on the Des Moines River at Birdland Park and off-season moorage at the Birdland Marina with Historic Sternwheeler, LLC, Mike LaValle, President.

## SYNOPSIS:

Recommend Approval of a Lease Agreement by and between the City of Des Moines and Historic Sternwheeler, LLC for the docking of the Jon Anderson White sternwheeler on the Des Moines River at Birdland Park and within the Birdland Marina during the off-season.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$5,660 (revenue) annually

Funding Source: GE001 PKS107600, Marina Operations, FY 2010 Operating Budget, page 211

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

With the renovation of the Jon Anderson White dinner boat, Mike LaValle, President of Historic Sternwheeler, LLC. has requested permission from the City to moor his boat at Birdland Park along the Des Moines River during the season approximately April – October and then during the off-season October – April within the Birdland Marina. During the off-season use of the Birdland Marina, access to the marina will be restricted to ten (10) days before and after the dates our public slip renters have access to the Marina, to minimize any potential conflicts between these two customer types.

During the dinner cruise season, passengers will board along East Riverside Drive adjacent to the Des Moines Botanical Center for the dinner cruises. Under the Lease Agreement, Mr. LaValle shall have access to moor the boat at Birdland Park along the Des Moines River during the dinner cruise season. Additionally, the cruises shall remain upstream of the landing area and for safety reasons at no time shall the vessel navigate south of the Interstate 235 bridge.

City staff is supportive of this request and the re-activation of the Jon Anderson White dinner boat as it activates Des Moines' waterfront. An annual lease rate of \$5,660 was established based on slip rates for personal water craft at Saylorville Lake and winter moorage rates. The largest slip at Saylorville is 60 feet and costs \$5,060 with winter out of water storage at \$600. The Jon Anderson White, a commercial operation, is just less than 69 feet long, excluding the paddle wheel. The recommended lease rate based on area moorage fees is being recommended by City staff as the Fair Market Value of this Lease

Agreement, which is on file in the City Clerks' Office is for the term of approximately two (2) years terminating on October 31, 2010.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE**

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE**

For more information on this and other agenda items, please call the City Clerk's Office at 515-283-4209 or visit the Clerk's Office on the second floor of City Hall, 400 Robert D. Ray Drive. Council agendas are available to the public at the City Clerk's Office on Thursday afternoon preceding Monday's Council meeting. Citizens can also request to receive meeting notices and agendas by email by calling the Clerk's Office or sending their request via email to [cityclerk@dmgov.org](mailto:cityclerk@dmgov.org).