

PUBLIC HEARING-DUCHARME PARK  
JUNE 17, 1991  
7:00 P.M.

Council present: Simshaw, Vergeront, Malgren, Kersich ..

Others present: Beulah Voss, Marie Gordon, Myrtle Koehler, Sally Sherick, Dave Sherick, Phyllis Fulkerson, Glen Fulkerson, Larry Nistler, Jessica Nistler, Danette Nistler, Anne McCrory for Mae McIntire, Edward Tiffany, Leona Tiffany, Mary Arden, Royce Bird, Travis Dolphin, John Campbell, Dan Allred, Brian Pugh, Kristy McCarthy, Bob McCarthy, Vicky McCarthy, Ruth Treen, Mary Greiner, Rich Cannan, Jim Rowlan, Ada Bryson, Leonard DeVore, Michael Tucker, Dick Giffin, Keith Johnson, Jerry Sorenson, Allen Anderson, Arliss Anderson, Don Manning, Ann Manning, J.H. Hanson, Maxine Gilbert, Betty Brill, Bonnie Polzin, Mike Long, Jeanette Strole, Phil Grainey, Bob Fulton, Rich Stripp

Acting Mayor Roland H. Pedersen presiding:

DUCHARME PARK:

Pedersen-As of 10:30 this morning about four different properties have become open to potential location of the Chamber office, therefore, the Chamber will make no formal presentation at this meeting tonight. We will, however, solicit public input after the city attorney gives his opinion on the terms of parkland dedication regarding this specific piece of property. Following the attorneys' information, the Chamber will be given a chance to speak. Following any such Chamber comments, those of you who would like to speak, please give your name for the clerk's record.

Grainey-Ducharme Park was dedicated to the city along with the Cramer Subdivision plat in 1916 on the 27th day of March. The certificate of dedication of the plat says the tract of land known as Cramer Subdivision and streets, alleys and park thereof, as shown on said plat, are dedicated to the use of the public forever. Question has been raised as to whether the proposed use by the Chamber of Commerce as a site for greeting of visitors qualifies within this limiting language. I feel the likely interpretation of a court, should the issue be brought to court, is the proposed Chamber usage would exceed limitations set forth in the certificate of dedication. Therefore, there is a strong likelihood of challenge to the proposed use.

Chamber-No presentation.

Arliss Anderson-Although I live outside the city limits, I have lived here for 36 years. I feel Ducharme Park is one of the prettiest spots on Flathead Lake. On numerous occasions I have seen visitors picnicing in the park, young people gather there and it would be a shame to use it for any other purpose than a public park.

Keith Johnson-Wish to express opposition to the proposal and will reserve further comment at this time.

David Sherick-We have provided a letter expressing our position focusing primarily on what a park is and what it is

to be used for. We go on record as opposed to the Chamber proposal.

Pedersen-Clerk will enter for the record letters which were received.

David Sherick-Are there numerous letters?

Clerk-There were quite a few as well as numerous phone calls. (The letters will be detailed at the end of this document.)

Ann Manning-I am definitely against putting any concrete or building in that park.

Phyllis Fulkerson-I was recently brought into the Chamber of Commerce. At our last Board meeting, we discussed the possibility of having the Chamber office in Ducharme Park. We also made note of the fact there were a lot of people opposed to that. We're up for suggestions. We need a permanent structure. The Chamber office has been in the Bishop building the past year, rent free at the courtesy of Mr. Bishop, but the office has been rented and we must vacate. Please make your suggestions.

Allen Anderson-I was born and raised here in Polson, now reside in Oregon, but I was appalled the Council would consider any other use for Ducharme Park.

Pedersen-I must say the tour of Ducharme Park last week was enlightening in view of the state highway right-of-way stakes. I hope they will not need that land anytime soon, however, it became evident how little useable land is available.

Jeanette Strole-As a young kid, I love hanging out in the park. I think it would be a shame to put anything up there. As far as suggestions, there is a piece of land next to the Driftwood Cafe for sale.

Bonnie Polzin-I don't live in the city, but I think it would be a shame to cut down trees that took a long time to grow, and would be hard to replace, for concrete and buildings.

Pedersen-If there is no further comment, we will adjourn the public hearing and move on to the regular Council meeting.

Public hearing adjourned.

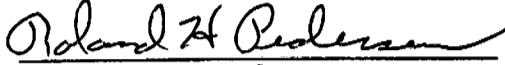
FOR THE RECORD: Letters received from the following;

David Sherick-opposed  
Phyllis Erickson-opposed  
Norma Ryan-opposed  
Mrs. Rudy Sherick and family-opposed  
Rocky Anderson-opposed  
Beula Voss-opposed  
Helen Rowlan-opposed  
Jacqueline Momberg-opposed  
Neva Tollefson-opposed  
Dennis Jones-Would not be opposed should proper planning be done regarding traffic flow.  
H. Dean Greiner-opposed  
Elizabeth Turgeon-opposed  
Mrs. Emerald Barker-opposed  
Susan Brueggeman-opposed  
Grace Shumate, Lisa Skalsky, Willa Weidman, Sharon Eixenbery,

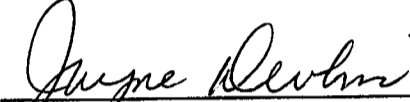
Jessie Hayes, Debbie Denton, Rita Ringhoff, Joyce Shima,  
Alison Keenan, Rob Sloan-opposed  
Barbara Monaco-Decision best left in hands of residents.

Phone calls of record;

Steve Sherick-opposed  
Paul Sherick-opposed

  
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Roland H. Pedersen  
Council President  
Acting Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Jayne Devlin  
City Clerk