



**ADA TOWNSHIP PARKS, RECREATION AND LAND PRESERVATION
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2019, 8:30 AM
ROSELLE PARK BUILDING, 1010 GRAND RIVER DR.
ADA, MICHIGAN**

AGENDA

1. Call meeting to order/roll call
2. Approval of agenda
3. Approval of minutes of September 12, 2019 Meeting
4. Approval of payment to Kent County Parks for local matching funds toward Chief Hazy Cloud Park land acquisition.
5. Review of proposed exchange of a portion of Township-owned open space at 7980 East Fulton St. for a portion of 8066 East Fulton St. property, Jeff Engler
6. Recommendation regarding purchase of replacement tractor
7. Recommendation regarding replacement of storm-damaged silo dome at Roselle Park
8. Committee Reports
 - a. Trails (VandenBerge, Jacobs, Nowak)
 - b. Land Preservation/Stewardship (Roe, Crosby, Steketee)
 - c. Recreation Programs/Services/Facilities (Smottlach, Terwilliger, Levick)
9. Park Director's Report
 - a. Status of rebidding of Roselle Park Unpaved Trails Improvements
 - b. Status of "Connect Ada" Non-Motorized Trail Plan Update
 - c. Update on DNR grant application for Roselle Park Picnic Area/Parking Lot Improvements.
 - d. Request for proposals for preparation of Leonard Field Park Master Plan
10. Board Member Comment
11. Public Comment
12. Adjournment

**ADA TOWNSHIP PARKS, RECREATION AND LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES OF THE THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2019 REGULAR MEETING
8:30 A.M., ROSELLE PARK, MEETING ROOM
1010 GRAND RIVER DR NE, ADA, MICHIGAN**

1. Call meeting to order/roll call

Present: Crosby, Haga, Levick, Terwilliger, Nowak, Schmottlach

Absent: Jacobs, Roe, VandenBerge, Damstra, (Steketee arrived at 8:52 am)

Staff Present: Fitzpatrick, Ferro, Winczewski

Public Present: 2 members

2. Approval of agenda

Terwilliger moved to approve the agenda. Crosby supported. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes of the July 11, 2019 meeting

Terwilliger moved to approve the minutes as written. Crosby supported. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Roselle Park North Trails Project Update

Paul Warnick of OCBA presented. Mr. Warnick stated they reviewed all 4 areas as shown in the board packets. The biggest change is the deletion of work in area #2 as it has been decided that the trail alignment can be shifted to higher ground closer to the river bank, and thereby avoid the need for a culvert. This work can be completed by Township staff. Overall, there is an expectation of higher costs due to grading and bringing up the trails to the levels they need to be. Native seeding has been deleted and replaced with perennial rye grass.

Board discussed the costs and Crosby mentioned the questions raised at a previous meeting whether the value of the project justified the costs. Fitzpatrick stated that this project has been a part of the long-term goals and thousands of dollars have been invested so far. This is a project on floodplain and needs to be managed as such.

Haga stated that the estimated costs are coming back higher every time. Fitzpatrick stated that it is due to DEQ changes and new construction and consultant costs.

Mr. Warnick stated that the last bid took place in June and that was the worst time to bid because of the wet terrain. The bids might be more in the Township's favor if done now for 2020 construction.

Fitzpatrick stated it needs to be dry at construction time so construction mats are not needed. Mats would be an added cost.

Terwilliger moved, Levick supported, to recommend to the Township Board to re-bid the project with a timeline for completion in 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Review of Draft RFP for Leonard Field Park Master Plan Process

Board reviewed the Draft RFP as presented in the board packets and discussed the timeline for completion.

Terwilliger moved, Steketee supported, to recommend to the Township Board to approve the Draft RFP as written for the Leonard Field Park Master Plan Process. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Preliminary Scoring of DNR Grant Application

The Advisory Board reviewed the grant application scorecard as presented in the packets. Fitzpatrick noted that our score from the DNR could potentially increase if we address all their comments.

Haga recommended reaching out to our local representative as a liaison.

7. Board Member / Staff Comments

Fitzpatrick stated that a citizens group called “Preserve Ada Committee” and the Trails Committee have recommended hiring a consulting firm, Nelson Nygaard, to assist in updating the Ada Trail Master Plan. They will be looking at mobility and access throughout the township. The costs for hiring Nelson Nygaard are around \$59,000. 75% is being funded by the citizens' group and 25% is being funded by the Township. The updated trail plan will help with the millage renewal.

Haga stated 4 proposals for a Space Needs Study have been received and interviews will take place next week.

Fitzpatrick stated that the trail system crack-sealing bids came in low so additional sections may be added.

Crosby stated that she likes the white backdrop behind the entry sign at Grand River Dr. & Knapp St. Crosby also encouraged more discussions in board meetings around preservation and open space. It is important that we educate landowners, particularly around the river, about saving sensitive natural features. Fitzpatrick agreed and suggested adding ‘Preservation and Open Space’ as a line item on future agendas.

McCormick updated the board on baseball league activity. McCormick also congratulated Chair Schmottlach on completing a triathlon in Traverse City.

Terwilliger requested an update on the Engler property.

Fitzpatrick summarized his Director’s Report as presented in the board packets.

8. Public Comments

Mike Reese, Director of Landscape Architecture at Troyer Group, introduced himself to the Advisory Board. Mr. Reese stated he moved here a year ago, loves the area, and has a personal and professional interest in the area.

9. Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jacqueline Smith, Ada Township Clerk



MEMORANDUM

Date: 10/04/19

TO: Ada Township Board
Ada Township Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Advisory Board
FROM: Jim Ferro, Planning Director
RE: Approval of Payment to Kent County for Land Acquisition to Expand Chief Hazy Cloud Park

Overview:

In March, 2016, the Township Board adopted a resolution expressing its intent to contribute \$300,000 from the Parks and Land Preservation Fund to Kent County, as local matching funds for a Michigan DNR Trust Fund grant for acquisition of 145 acres of land to expand Chief Hazy Cloud Park, located between Pettis Ave and the Grand River. After a long process, Kent County closed on the acquisition of the property on September 19, 2019. Kent County is now requesting payment of the \$300,000 in Township funds.

Attached is a map showing the boundaries of the 145 acres of land that were acquired, labeled on the map as "TF16-0157." Also attached is the closing statement, documenting the purchase price of \$3.4 million, and an invoice from Kent County for the Township's \$300,000 in local matching funds.

It should also be noted that Kent County has received approval from the Michigan DNR for a second Trust Fund grant to acquire an additional 55 acres located west of the recent acquisition, labeled on the attached map as "TF17-0200." This acquisition is expected to close in 2020.

The County has also submitted a 3rd grant application for acquisition of 74 more acres of land labeled as "TF190039" on the map. The County will hear in December, 2019 whether this 3rd grant has been approved.

The Township has also committed \$400,000 in additional Parks and Land Preservation funding toward the 2nd and 3rd grants.

The \$300,000 expenditure toward the cost of the recently-completed acquisition is contained in the current year budget of the 213 Fund, which has a current fund balance of \$774,511. It should also be pointed out that the Land Conservancy of West Michigan previously contributed \$60,350 from its dedicated "Ada Fund" to the Township toward the \$300,000 in local matching funds, thereby reducing the net expense to the Township to \$239,650.

Approval of the \$300,000 expenditure is requested.



County of Kent
300 Monroe Ave NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503-2221
(616)632-7600



INVOICE

Customer Name

Page 1

ADA TOWNSHIP

Customer Number

VC001149

Invoice Number

19091301218

Invoice Date

09-13-19

AR Dept BPRO

Due Date

191:1076

09-13-19

Amount Due

\$300,000.00

Amount Enclosed

Remit to:
Kent County Treasurer Department
300 Monroe NW
Grand Rapids MI 49503

Bill to:
ADA TOWNSHIP
ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT
7330 THORNAPPLE RIVER PO BOX 370
ADA MI 49301

Payment Method: Check ☐ Money Order ☐

☐ If your address has changed, please contact the Fiscal Services Department at 616-632-7600.

Please write Invoice No. on front of check or Money Order. DO NOT MAIL CASH

Please detach the above stub and return with your remittance payable to County of Kent

ORIGINAL

Customer Number	Orig. Inv. Date	Orig. Due Date
VC001149	09-13-19	09-13-19
Customer Name	Invoice Number	Invoice Date
ADA TOWNSHIP	19091301218	09-13-19

Invoice Charges

Ref Line No.	DESCRIPTION	Billing Date	No.of Units	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Charges/Credit
1	Contribution pledged in support of acquiring more than 140 acres to expand Chief Hazy Cloud Park.	09-13-19				\$300,000.00
TOTAL INVOICE Charges						\$300,000.00

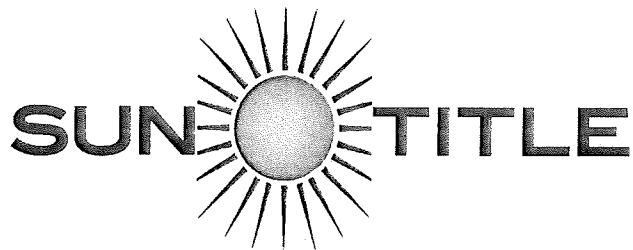
Other Charges

DESCRIPTION	Date	Charges
Total Other Charges		

Credit Payments Applied	\$0.00
Total Amount Due By 09-13-19	\$300,000.00

Instructions

Remit to Kent County Treasurer Department.

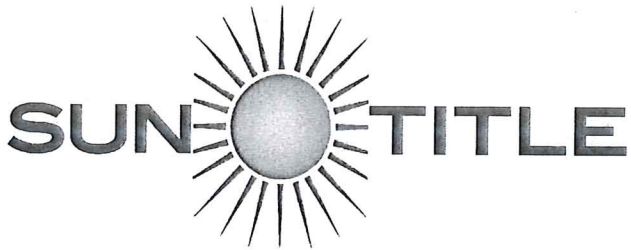


CLOSING STATEMENT FOR BUYERS(S)

Closing Date: September 19, 2019
 Disbursement Date: September 19, 2019
 Proration Date: September 19, 2019
 Property Address: Pettis Avenue, Multiple Parcels, Ada, MI 49301
 Sun Title File No.: PC122856
 Buyer(s): County of Kent, a Michigan municipal corporation
 Seller(s): East River Holdings, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company

DESCRIPTION		CHARGE	CREDIT
Sale Price of Property		3,400,000.00	
SUM Tax Proration	09/19/19 to 07/01/20	8,533.32	
WIN Tax Proration	09/19/19 to 12/01/19	1,365.12	
Title - Closing Fee	to Sun Title Agency of Michigan, LLC	700.00	
Title - Recording Processing Fee	to Sun Title Agency of Michigan, LLC	25.00	
Recording Fees	to Register of Deeds - Kent	30.00	
City/County Transfer Tax	to Register of Deeds - Kent	3,740.00	
State Transfer Tax	to Register of Deeds - Kent	25,500.00	
Tax Certification	to Kent County Treasurer's Office	5.00	
Title - Owner's Title Insurance (optional)	to Sun Title Agency of Michigan, LLC	4,400.00	
Subtotals		3,444,298.44	0.00
Balance Due FROM Buyer			3,444,298.44
TOTALS		3,444,298.44	3,444,298.44

The parties have read this Closing Statement, approved it, and authorize the disbursement of funds and documents in accordance with it. The above figures do not include sales or use taxes on personal property. Any prorations above have been made and calculated according to the Purchase Agreement. This Closing Statement may be signed in original or by facsimile and in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original and all of which, taken together, shall be one complete document.



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APPROVED and ACCEPTED

BUYER(S):

County of Kent, a Michigan municipal
corporation

BY: Wayne P. Brit

Mandy Bolter

Its: Chair, Kent County Board of
Commissioners

WAYNE P. BRIT

ADMINISTRATOR CONTROLLER

ESCROW AGENT:

S
Sun Title Agency of Michigan, LLC

SUN TITLE AGENCY OF MICHIGAN, LLC

EXPLANATION OF TAX PRORATIONS

(PC122856 – Multiple Parcels, Pettis Ave.)

There are two real estate tax bills that affect property in Michigan – a **Summer** bill (issued on July 1) and a **Winter** bill (issued on December 1). The Purchase Agreement requires us to pro-rate these two bills between the Seller and the Buyer. This means that we treat each bill as though it covers the due and payable date of the last bill, thru the next due date of each bill (Summer due and payable on July 1 and Winter due and payable on December 1).

Seller **paid** the tax bill, gets a credit for the period of time from the date of closing through the next due date of each bill – the other party gets charged the same amount (the credit and the charge are the same amount).

Below is an explanation of how the pro-rations in this transaction were calculated.

2019 Summer Tax Bill* (PAID by Seller, applies from 7/1/2019 thru 6/30/2020)

$\$10,920.26 / 366 \text{ days} = \$29.83677 \text{ per day} \times 286 \text{ days (9/19/19 thru 6/30/2020)} = \underline{\$8,533.32}$

Buyer portion due to Seller.

Next tax bill due 7/1/2020 – buyer responsibility, if applicable

2018 Winter Tax Bill (PAID by Seller, applies from 12/1/2018 thru 11/30/2019)**

$\$6,825.58 / 365 \text{ days} = 18.70021 \text{ per day} \times 73 \text{ days (9/19/19 thru 11/30/19)} = \underline{\$1,365.12}$

Buyer portion due to Seller.

Next tax bill due 12/1/2019 – buyer responsibility, if applicable

***2019 Summer tax bill:**

Parcel 41-15-20-200-018: \$1,973.61 +

Parcel 41-15-28-100-002: \$790.64 +

Parcel 41-15-21-300-024: \$7,125.12 +

Parcel 41-15-21-300-012: \$1,030.89 =

Total: \$10,920.26

****Winter tax bill:**

Parcel 41-15-20-200-018: \$1,233.61 +

Parcel 41-15-28-100-002: \$494.16 +

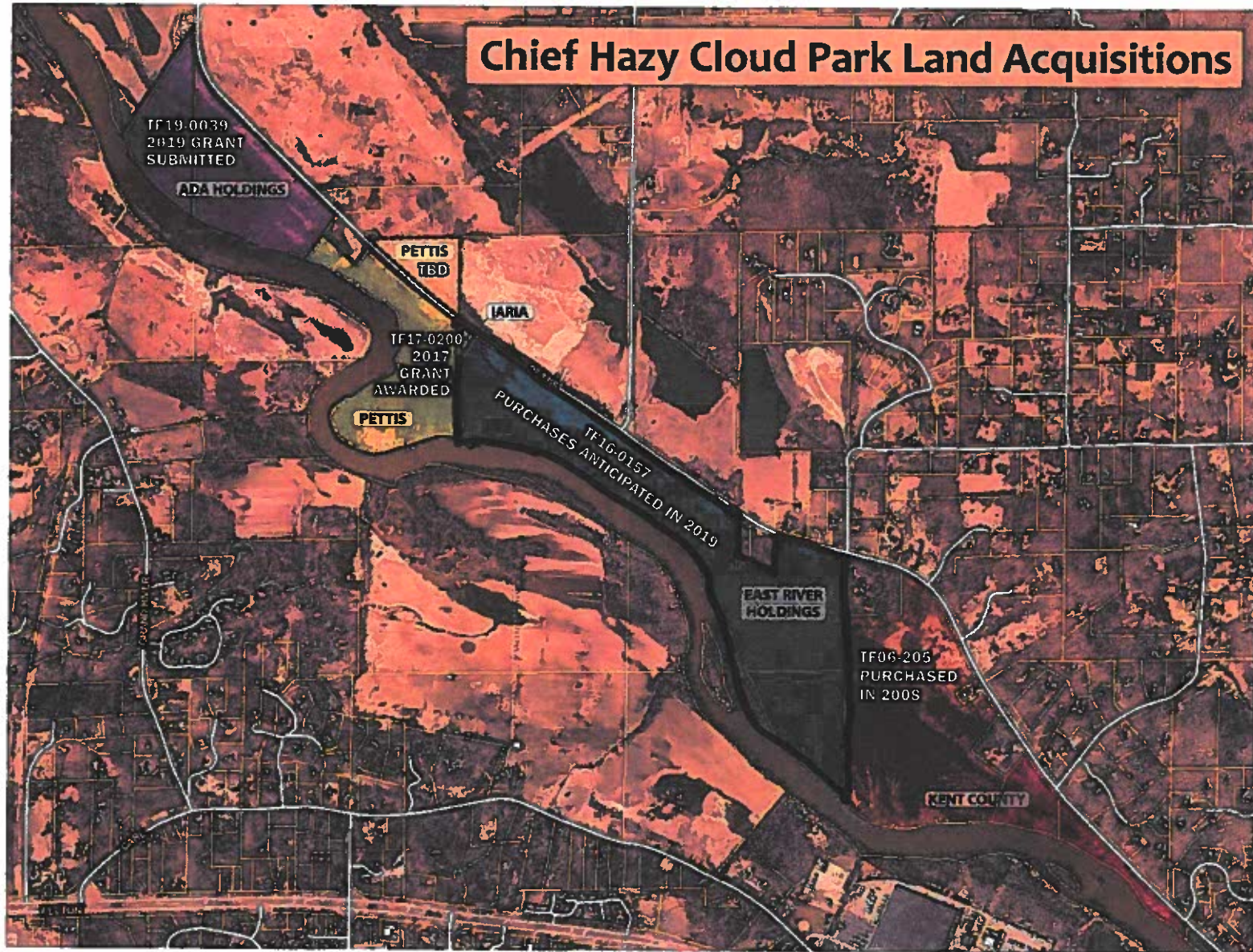
Parcel 41-15-21-300-024: \$4,453.50 +

Parcel 41-15-21-300-012: \$644.31 =

Total: \$6,825.58

Note: On parcel 41-15-20-200-018 which is new for 2019, I calculated an estimated "Winter" amount by taking the taxable value of \$64,900 (2019) x 19.0079 (2018 w millage) = \$1,233.61.

Chief Hazy Cloud Park Land Acquisitions





MEMORANDUM

Date: 10/09/19

TO: Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Advisory Board
FROM: Jim Ferro, Planning Director
RE: Property Exchange Proposal from Jeff Engler, American International Foods

In early September, I received a new proposal from Jeff Engler for exchange of property between the American International Foods property at 8066 East Fulton St. and the Township-owned open space preserve at 7980 East Fulton St. The proposal contains two options, shown on the attached maps labeled Option and Option B. In return for conveying the triangle-shaped land area shown in blue to Engler, the Township would gain either the land labeled either "A" or "B."

Comments on Proposal Options/Possible Counterproposal

Both Options would exchange nearly the same acreage between the two properties. The plan submitted by Mr. Engler is not a scaled drawing, so exact acreages are difficult to determine.

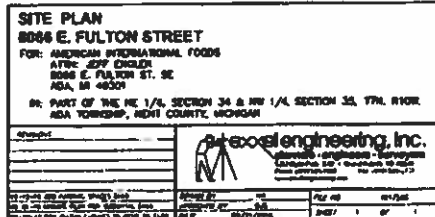
Option B would result in the Township gaining some frontage on the Grand River, while Option A would not include any additional river frontage.

Property exchange options A and B are both unacceptable for the following reasons:

1. They both result in a very irregular/awkward property boundary.
2. The relative land values per acre are much higher for the land that would be gained by American International Foods, compared to the value per acre for land that is deep in the floodplain.

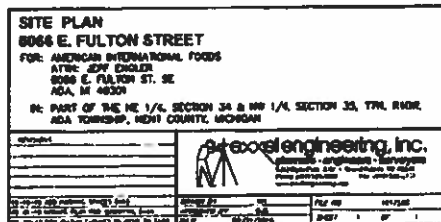
As I counterproposal, I would recommend that the Township propose the exchange shown in Option C. In this alternative, both Areas labelled A and B would be conveyed to the Township in exchange for the area labelled in blue that would be conveyed to American International Foods. The result is a much simpler property boundary, and an exchange of land area that is closer to equivalent values of property exchanged.

AYU A T-14



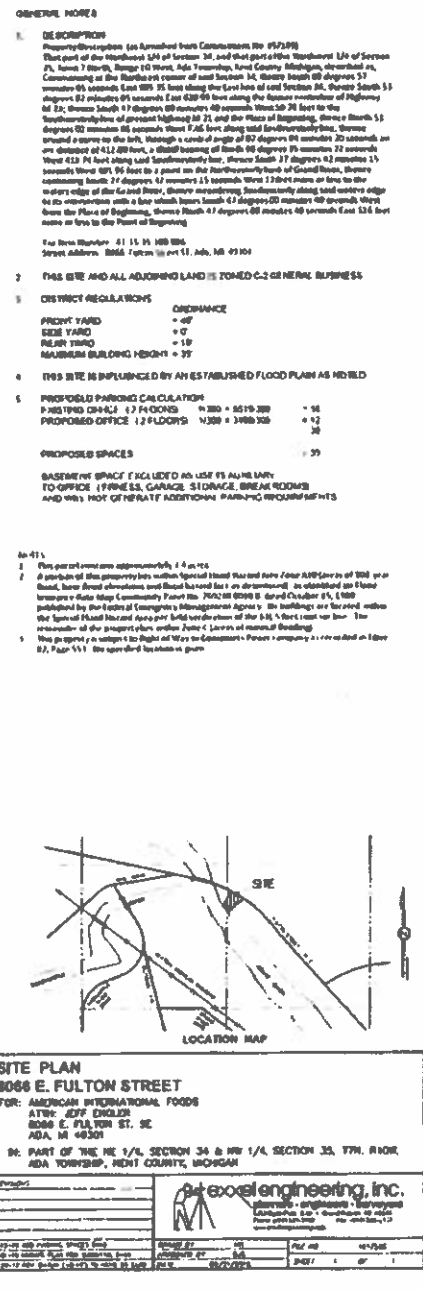
③ Gets two more Fringe, more Natural Area
For preservation

MYA TAP



③ Gets ~~just~~ more funding, more national Area
For preservation

MYA T-1P



③ Gets ~~two~~ more Fringe, more Natural Area
For preservation



To: Ada Township Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Advisory Board
From: Mark Fitzpatrick, Parks & Recreation Director
Re: Tractor Replacement
Date: October 9, 2019

Background

In 2007, a Kubota tractor and snowblower were purchased by the Township. The primary goal of these were for snow removal on the non-motorized trails (bike paths) and mowing along the sides of the paths with a brush hog rotary style mower. The tractor was also used for servicing some snow removal in the parks, mowing non-paved trails at Roselle Park and clearing other Township properties.

The tractor had a lot of use over the years and with that a lot of maintenance and repair costs. This summer the tractor had another operating issue with an estimate cost of \$9,000.00 for repairs. The mechanics noted that this was not a long-term fix and similar repair issues and cost could occur again based on the wear and age of the tractor.

Review Process

In our review of the new repair costs, we considered options ranging from having the repair work done to replacing the tractor. We also considered what would be best for overall long-term costs. Our investigations included recommendations and cost estimates from both Kubota and John Deere dealerships and discussions with Cascade Township and Kent County Parks Department. Both Kubota and John Deere showed us sample models and cost estimates for a replacement tractor and snow blower similar to the current Kubota ones.

The recommendations also included the option of trading in the old Kubota tractor or selling it through an auction service. We are reviewing the logistics of the auction option.

Our investigation also included discussions with the Kent County Purchasing Department. They were supportive of us soliciting bids through them for a tractor similar to what we had done for the trucks. We felt it was best to pursue proposals through the Kent County Purchasing Department versus quotes from multiple dealerships.

Request for Proposals

We worked with the Kent County Purchasing Department to set specifications for their request for proposals. Those included details for both a tractor and a front-mounted snow blower. The County set the specifications to target John Deere brand tractors while still leaving the bids open to all brands that met the general specifications. There is an advantage to us in obtaining a John Deere tractor compared to other brands since most of our related equipment is by John Deere. That would help in keeping operations and service for all the equipment the same.

Attached is a copy of the Solicitation notice from Kent County Purchasing Department. It was posted October 3 with proposals due on October 11. Once the proposals are in, we will be able to evaluate them for best options and cost.

This item was not included in the FY 2019-20 budget so adjustments will need to be made to facilitate the purchase at this time. Estimates for the tractor ranged from \$47,000 to \$48,000, and from \$8,000 to \$11,000 for the snow blower. At the high range, the combined cost estimate would be \$59,000.

Board Request

We are requesting of the PRLP Advisory Board support a recommendation to the Township Board of Trustee for the purchase of a new tractor and snowblower, contingent on the proposals solicited through the Kent County Purchasing Department.



**FISCAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
PURCHASING DIVISION**

Kent County Administration Building, 300 Monroe Avenue N.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503-2289
Phone: (616) 632-7720 • Fax: (616) 632 -7715 • Email: purchasing@kentcountymi.gov

SOLICITATION

Requesting Agencies	Kent County
Solicitation Type	Request for Proposal (RFP)
Solicitation Number	3816
Description	John Deere Tractor or customer acceptable alternatives
Date of Issuance	10/3/2019
Inquiries Deadline Date & Time (local)	10/8/2019, 2 PM
Due Date & Time (local)	10/11/2019, 10 AM
Buyer Name	Laming
Purchasing Website	www.accesskent.com/purchasing

INTRODUCTION

The Kent County Purchasing Division is soliciting proposals for a John Deere Tractor or customer acceptable alternatives for Ada Township Parks. The tractor will be used year-round in the Township parks and on paved bike trails. Delivery will be to Ada Township.

Scope

John Deere brand tractor or customer acceptable alternatives

- Model 3046R or customer acceptable alternatives
- 46 engine hp, 34 PTO hp
- Closed cab with running lights, beacon light, rear work light, heat and AC, defoggers, mirrors and wipers
- Front hydraulic system for blower, 2000 rpm minimum
- Rear hydraulic system
- Rear 3-point hitch for attachments (blade, blower)
- Mid PTO for front blower
- Front three-point hitch
- 4 all-purpose turf tires
- Front and rear weight kits and brackets

Front Mount Snow Blower

- John Deere or customer acceptable alternatives
- 72-inch width
- 3-point hitch
- Hydraulic kit for lift, rotation and chute deflection
- Parallel shaft gear drive

The [Kent County Standard Submission Terms](#) posted on the Bid Opportunities page of the Kent County Purchasing Division website are incorporated by reference into the solicitation.

REQUESTING AGENCIES

This solicitation is issued in collaboration with the named local governmental agencies. The solicitation terms and conditions apply on behalf of the local agencies unless otherwise waived by an authorized agent. For the purposes of this solicitation, the term "Kent County" or "County" shall include all named local governmental agencies unless specifically stated otherwise.

Each local agency reserves its right to award at its sole discretion without regard to the terms and conditions in this request. Each local agency is independently and solely responsible for the awards each local agency accepts. Awards made by Kent County for Kent County shall state the award is a Kent County award for which Kent County is responsible.

WARRANTY

All equipment/materials shall consist of the original manufacturer warranty in addition to any other warranties specified in this Solicitation. Warranties shall include, at minimum, warranties against defects in design, materials, and workmanship. The warranty period will start upon installation of product or sixty (60) days from date of delivery, whichever is less, unless otherwise specified. Labor and shipping costs for the replacement of defective material will be borne by the Respondent for the duration of the warranty period. The Respondent agrees that, regardless of statements to the contrary, they will not disclaim either the warranty of merchantability or the warranty of fitness for a particular purpose.

INVITATION FOR SUBMISSION

Respondent shall submit the Response Form ("Bid Form" "Submission Form") posted on the [Bids Opportunities](#) page of the Kent County Purchasing Division's website unless otherwise attached to the Solicitation. Click the Submit Online icon to submit electronically or to print the Response Form. Respondent must submit the Bid Bond with Response Form if required.

Complete submissions must be received in the Kent County Purchasing Division, 300 Monroe Avenue NW, 2nd Floor receptionist, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 (or any other designated area) no later than the due date/time specified by the designated clock (local time). Late, faxed, or emailed responses will NOT be considered.

Responses may be submitted electronically by selecting the "Submit Online" icon on the Bid Opportunities page of the Kent County Purchasing Division's website. Respondent must include a complete proposal as one (1) non-password protected PDF document, unless otherwise designated by Kent County.

The time required to upload a submission may vary. Respondent assumes all risks associated with electronic submission (including all possible technical issues) and deems the County and its service provider harmless and without fault regardless the reason. Successful electronic submissions are confirmed via Respondent's email. Respondent shall view the link in the confirmation email to determine accuracy prior to due date/time.

An unbound hard copy may be submitted in a sealed envelope or package prior to the due date/time. It must be clearly labeled with the solicitation number, due date/time, and organization's name. Respondent shall ensure delivery of submission by due date/time regardless of delivery method. Kent County is not responsible for deliveries made to any place other than the designated address.

Responses that deviate from the Solicitation specifications will only be considered if the deviations are clearly detailed and noted within the Response. In case of a dispute regarding the true intent and meaning of the specifications, the County's interpretation will prevail. When a Solicitation states no alternates, no deviations are permitted.

Kent County is not liable for cost incurred prior to award. A submission shall constitute an irrevocable offer for a period of sixty (60) days from the due date/time. In the event the notification of award is not made within sixty (60) days from the due date/time, the Respondent may withdraw or provide a written extension of their submission.

Submissions may only be withdrawn by written request if the request is received before the due date/time. Withdrawals subsequent to opening shall be subject to [Kent County Fiscal Policy – Centralized Purchasing 5\(i\)\(2\)](#).

NO BID

Please provide [feedback](#) if you are electing not to participate in this solicitation.

Thomet Custom Construction LLC
1970 Pettis Avenue NE
Ada, MI 49301
(616)437-1039
thometconstruction@gmail.com

Estimate

ADDRESS

Ada Township
7330 Thornapple River Dr.
Ada, Mi 49301

ESTIMATE # 1083

DATE 09/30/2019

ACTIVITY	QTY	RATE	AMOUNT
22 Specialty Rosel Park 1010 Grand river dr. Ada, Mi 49301 Silo repair after wind removed silo dome.	1	11,000.00	11,000.00
OPTION 1 Replacing dome on 24' wide Silo , 60' in the air. Replace dome with the dome that was existing in which case was a Galvalume top. (grey) (We have to build scaffolding from the inside to the top of silo)			
22 Specialty OPTION 2 Replacing dome on a 24' wide silo , 60' in the air. Replace with a White dome to match the silo next to this one.	1	12,100.00	12,100.00
22 Specialty OPTION 3 Replacing dome on 24' wide silo, 60' in the air. Replace with white dome with stars to match existing silo next to this one. (in order to get stars on this dome ,it has to be put together in shop the stars laid out and painted. Then the dome needs to be marked and dismantled then brought to site to be raised into place)	1	14,300.00	14,300.00
26 Landscaping & Paving demo and repair asphalt trail in front of silo. The damage was done do to having the heavy lift brought in to remove damaged dome from top of silo. Pick option 1,2,or 3 please and let us know ASAP to get ordered.	1	1,380.00	1,380.00

Thank you for your business!

TOTAL

\$38,780.00

Accepted By

Accepted Date



Ada Township Parks & Recreation Department Park Director's Report

For October 10, 2019

Submitted by Parks & Recreation Director Mark Fitzpatrick

Impact from September 11 Storms

- Severe storms came through the area on the evening of September 11. Classified by the weather service to be high level “straight line winds” (as tornados by some locals). Ada and Lowell were right in the path. These had significant impacts on the community and our facilities including power outages, power lines down, closing of roads and many trees damaged. Our biggest impact was at Roselle Park which lost power, had damage to the silo and many trees.

Updates on Administrative Items

- The consulting firm of Integrated Architecture has been contracted by the Township to conduct the Space Needs and Facility Study. This will focus on the Ada Township Hall and the Ada Park office/learning center and maintenance building. The consultants will be working on the project in October and November with their report due date on December 9, 2019
- The request for proposals (RFP) to prepare a Master Plan for Leonard Field Park was sent out September 24. Proposals are due October 11. The Recreation, Programs and Facilities Committee will need to participate in review of the proposals, interviews and a recommendation the PRLP Advisory Board. The PRLP Advisory Board is to review and make a recommendation to the Township Board for their November 14 meeting.
- A “Connect Ada” initiative is underway by the Township, the Trail Committee and the “Preserve Ada Committee” partnering to hire a consultant to review access to the Village and relationship to the trail system. The firm of “Nelson/Nygaard Consulting Associates, Inc.” has been hire to do the study. A kickoff meeting was held October 7 with their final report due December 23, 2019.
- Staffing note –Rob McCormick departs for the winter on November 1, returning in March of 2020.
- The new park truck, coordinated through the Kent County purchasing Department has been delivered. We are processing it for use including insurance and amenities of a plow, light and decals. Estimated costs, including plow, light and decals \$33,753.70.
- Working with the Kent County purchasing Department, a bid has been put out for new tractor and snow blower to replace the Kubota tractor we had been using. Bids are due into the County on October 11. The primary use of this equipment if for maintaining the trails. The PRLP Advisory Board will need to review this purchase and make a recommendation to the Township Board.
- A “Supplemental Information” form was submitted to the MI DNR for the Trust Fund grant application on the Roselle Park Shelter project. We hope this will add a few more points to our score. We expect to hear back from the DNR in late November or early December on our potential funding status.
- We are in the process of putting together worksheets for the next Capital Improvement Plan. These include projects over \$10,000. Smaller projects will go into the maintenance, improvements or new equipment line items in the annual budgets.

Updates on Township Parks and Preserves

Ada Township Park

- The storm of September 11 damaged some number of trees in the park. Most were cleaned up shortly after the storm.
- The new section of paved trail is getting daily use.
- Shelter and Gazebo reservations stop at the end of October. We will open registrations for the 2020 season December 1st.
- Closing of facilities that are well dependent will occur at the end of October. This includes the shelter (restrooms, drinking fountain, utility room), water line to the maintenance garage and irrigation lines to the athletic fields.
- We will be pruning trees in the Arboretum the last week of October with assistance from the Tree MD.
- A student from Calvin College has provided us additional GPS data points for trees in the Arboretum. We are sending the data to REGIS to be incorporated into our mapping and management tools.

Leonard Field Park

- Buist Electric and George have been trying to get follow up information from Consumers Energy to process the cost and placement for a new circuit panel in the park. We hope to have the circuit panel installed behind the bathroom this fall.
- The temporary generator used to light the ball field has been removed. The final games of the season are being played in daylight hours.
- The request for proposals (RFP) to prepare a Master Plan was sent out September 24. Proposals are due October 11. Following that due date, we will review the proposals, interview candidates and then make a recommendation to the Township Board for their November 14 meeting. The project is to be completed by April 1, 2020.

Roselle Park

- We are again facing flooded trail conditions in the park from the extensive rain of the last week. The river levels have crested and will lower over the next week.
- The north trails project was approved by the Township Board to go back out to bid on September 23. The project went out to bid on October 1. Proposals are due October 22. A voluntary pre-conference information meeting is set for October 9. A recommendation is to go to the Advisory Board meeting on November 14.
- The storm of September 11 highly impacted the park and nearby community. In the park, the top of one of the silo's was blown apart and many trees were broken off or uprooted. Utility lines along Grand River Drive were down so power and internet services was out for several days. This was classified by the weather service to be "straight line winds". Initial repairs and clean-up have been done, but others are waiting on an insurance claim and approval of contracted services. Volunteers assisted several days with the tree and trail clean up needs.
- Crack seal of the paved trails in Roselle Park is part of a trail maintenance project facilitated by Moore & Bruggink. It was awarded to A-1 Asphalt. They should be starting on it soon.
- Rentals of the room for the fall, holiday season and 2020 continue. Weekends in May and June of 2020 are filling in the quickest.

Updates on Township Parks and Preserves cont.

Legacy Park – In Memory of Helen and Rich Devos

- Construction on the Amphitheater is moving along but may have been slowed down by the recent rains and river flooding. Completion was planned for late October. The area around the stage is currently flooded, limiting access to it.
- We are still waiting on an installation date for the memorial sculpture *-In Memory of Helen and Rich Devos*. There was some additional cost to the project which were approved by the Township Board. The goal is still to have it installed this fall.
- The development of a park sign is still in process through the Township-wide sign initiative.
- The park is getting lots of use, especially for the playground, picnic area and trails.
- Volunteers are assisting with weeding the many garden beds there.
- We hope to have a collaborative meeting this fall to review activities in the park and how they relate to other community events and concerts in the Village.
- The rules committee will need to incorporate new rules, policies and rental fees for this park in their next meeting.

Carl Creek Crossings Preserve

- The preserve has some tree and trail washout damage from the September storm. The creek went over the bank and washed out a section of the path. Park staff and volunteers have been working on the repairs.
- A volunteer stewardship workday was held October 7 for trail repairs, cleaning up woody debris and cutting back invasive plants.
- The old utility wires have been removed from the site.

Carl Creek Wetlands Preserve

- Kent Conservation District has agreed to assess our issues with the invasive Buckthorn trees.
- An assessment of the site for storm damage and other needs is to be done this fall.

Grand River Natural Area

- No major damage to this site from the storms. We were able to clean up the debris rather quickly.
- The site is currently flooded over from the recent rains and rise of the Grand River.
- A section of the paved trail that was not repaired with the 2018-19 trail project will need to be incorporated into improvement projects for next year.

Knapp Corners Preserve

- The temporary white board is still up behind the letters on the sign. Review of the sign needs is still underway with the Township-wide sign initiative.
- Staff and volunteers are maintaining the site.

Updates on the Bike Paths / Non-Motorized Trails

- Moore & Bruggink is facilitating a new maintenance project on the trails for 2019 to include sealing of the cracks throughout the system. A-1 Asphalt will be doing the work this fall.
- The Trails Committee is coordinating with the “Connect Ada” initiative is underway by the Township and the “Preserve Ada Committee”. “Nelson/Nygaard Consulting Associates, Inc.” has been contracted to do the study. Stakeholder meetings and public input sessions are being set up. The final report due December 23, 2019.

Updates on Recreation Programs

- Softball leagues for the 2019 season finish this week. The last tournament event will be held next Saturday as a field rental of Leonard Field by TVBL in coordination with a tournament at the Lions Field. Rob is working on schedules for the 2020 season. We hope that will be set by December 1.
- AYSO youth soccer, facilitated as a seasonal field rental in Ada Park, will wrap up at the end of October. We expect them to return in 2010.
- ZigZag Ultimate Frisbee for area youth, also run as a field rental, wraps up mid-October. We expect them to return in 2020.
- A few School programs are being conducted this fall. Forest Hills Eastern Middle School will again be funded through the Groundswell initiative with GVSU. A new homeschool program will be tried this fall. Marketing for winter and spring programs is underway.
- Pre-school programs will start back up in the spring.
- Youth programs have wrapped up for 2019. The 2020 season is being set up and will include summer day camps and one-day experiences again.
- October Community programs include a “Night Sky” program at Roselle Park, a “Fall Family Night in the Park” at Ada Park. The parks staff will also participate in the “Brats and Bonfires” and “Trunks and Treats” events later this month.
- Coordinators of the Grand Rapids Triathlon recently met with the park staff to review the 2019 Triathlon and coordinated logistics for the next one set for June 14, 2020.
- Details for the Grand River Expedition 2020 will be defined at the end of October. Participants will paddle from Jackson to Grand Haven between July 5 and July 18, 2020. They will have a stay-over at Chief Hazy Cloud Park on July 14, followed on the 15th with a public event at Riverside Park in Grand Rapids. We are partnering with LGROW to assist with local logistics.
- Information for the next Adaview newsletter is due October 18. That will arrive to residents at the end of November.

Other Items

- The fall Ada-Cascade Clean-Up Day is coming weekend, Saturday, October 12. It will be held at the Forest Hills Central Middle School parking lot. We are working to set up a date for the spring 2020 event.
- A Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off Day has been set for Saturday, October 19 at the Cascade Fire Station on Buttrick drive.
- Construction is underway for the new Kent District Library in the Village of Ada.



To: George Haga, Ada Township Supervisor

From: Mark Fitzpatrick, Parks Director

Re: September 11 Storm Damage

Date: September 19, 2019

In the evening of Wednesday, September 16, 2019, a significant storm came through Ada and adjoining communities. Here are a few updates on the damages to the Township Parks & Trails.

Roselle Park

- Significant damages to facilities and trees.
- Thursday morning, we closed the park except for access by work crews. By Friday afternoon we had it open again with some restrictions on the trails.
- Power was out Thursday and into Friday morning. We had the building closed all that time.
- Comcast service is out at the building due to lines down and has stopped internet/WiFi service and communications to EPS for security. EPS will have to reset once Comcast is back in service.
- The top of one of the silos was literally blown apart with parts left on the ground and others dangling. On Thursday morning we flagged and blocked off the area. A crane was brought in Friday morning. By Friday afternoon the top was removed by Thomet Construction. The metal parts were removed from the site and taken to Pando's for scrap recycling. A section of the pavement was damaged by the crane and will be repaired by Thomet Construction. We will need to replace the cap/top of the silo.
- A significant number of trees were damaged – either uprooted or broken off. Sections of the trails were blocked by the trees and branches. Most sections are opened again for walkers to get by, but there will still be several days of work on the trails. Many trees in the undeveloped areas were broken off by the winds. We have not been able to inspect the north trails yet.



Ada Park

A few trees damaged and a lot of debris. Being cleaned up this week and next.
Note piles of tree branches are growing fast. We may need to get a dumpster to move it out.

Leonard Field Park

Just debris and branches from trees. Being cleaned up this week

Legacy Park

Just debris and branches from trees. Being cleaned up this week

Carl Creek Crossings Preserve

A couple small trees came down, lots of debris. Was cleaned up on Saturday.

Carl Creek Wetlands Preserve

An inspection of this site has not been done yet. It should be by the end of the week.

Grand River Natural Area

An inspection of this site has not been done yet. It should be by the end of the week.

Bike Trails

- Ada Drive had mostly tree debris. No significant damage. No power lines down.
- Grand River Dr had many trees down with several crossing the bike path. One tree uprooted and created a hole in the blacktop. All paths were open by Sunday afternoon.
- The sections along Bailey, McCabe and Conservation had a dozen downed trees across the path. By Friday afternoon all were cleared for walkers to get through. Monday staff went through again to clear those sections of the path. The sections along Knapp only has leafy debris and branches and is all open for users. The clean-up will continue for a while



Roads and Residents

- Grand River Drive, Pettis and other roads were closed most of Thursday and Friday due to trees and power lines down. The Road Commission and utility companies worked to get those roads back open and power restored by the end of the day Friday. Piles of woody debris is left alongside the roads throughout the community.
- Many private land owners had trees down and damage to their property. Power was out most of Thursday for many and into Friday for a some too. Collectively, there is a lot of trees and branches to be sorted out yet.