

**RAYTOWN BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TENTATIVE AGENDA
SEPTEMBER 6, 2011
WORK SESSION
RAYTOWN CITY HALL
10000 EAST 59TH STREET
RAYTOWN, MISSOURI 64133**

**WORK SESSION
6:00 P.M.**

- A. Wildwood Lake Request
 - 1. Status Update
Andy Noll, Public Works Director

- B. Blue Star Memorial Sign
 - 1. Proposed Donation from Raytown Garden Club
John Benson, Interim Community Development Director

Memo

To: Mayor Bower and Board of Aldermen
From: John Benson, Interim Director of Community Development
CC: Mahesh Sharma, City Administrator
Date: September 6, 2011
Re: Request to Install Blue Star Memorial Sign

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information on a proposal from the Raytown Garden Club regarding their interest in purchasing a Blue Star Memorial Sign and donating it to the City of Raytown. As described in greater detail and depicted in the attached brochure, a Blue Star Memorial Sign is a marker that is designed to pay tribute to the United States Armed Forces and is typically located on a pole or mounted to a large rock. As further described in the attached letter from the Raytown Garden Club to Kevin Boji, Director of Parks & Recreation, the Garden Club presented this idea to the Park Board who recommended that the sign be installed in the “pocket park” at 63rd Street and Raytown Road. While the “pocket park” is maintained by the Park & Recreation Department, the property is not dedicated as a park. Rather the property on which the pocket park is located is simply owned by the City and currently used as green space. Therefore, placement of the Blue Star Memorial sign in the “pocket park” would require approval from the Board of Aldermen.

A couple of members of the Garden Club also met with Kevin Boji and myself to further discuss placement of the Blue Star Memorial sign in the pocket park. Various location issues and constraints within the pocket park were discussed at this meeting. In addition, members of the Garden Club were also made aware of the city’s plans to undertake a streetscape project within the next year in the downtown area, which will include that portion of 63rd Street and Raytown Road abutting the pocket park. Therefore, staff suggested that rather than installing the sign this fall another available option is to have the consultants who will be designing the downtown streetscape project to take into account the Blue Star Memorial Sign as they develop the streetscape plans. This may allow the sign to be incorporated into the downtown streetscape in a location that provides more visibility, which may be either within the street right-of-way or in the pocket park area. At the conclusion of the meeting the members of the Garden Club felt the installation of the Blue Star Memorial Sign should not be done this fall as indicated in the attached letter they sent to Mr. Boji. Rather they are willing and able to wait to see if it can be incorporated into the overall downtown streetscape.

No action is needed from the Board on this item, unless the Board does not want to consider potential locations for the Blue Star Memorial sign within the street right-of-way or in the pocket park.

CITY OF RAYTOWN
Request for Board Action

Date: September 1, 2011
To: Mayor and Board of Aldermen
From: Andy Noll, Director of Public Works

Department Head Approval: _____

Finance Director Approval: _____

City Administrator Approval: _____



Action Requested: Board of Aldermen consideration of Wildwood Lake Homeowners Association request.

Recommendation: None.

Analysis: Wildwood Lake Homeowners Association (HOA) approached the Board requesting the City to address problems with algae and silt accumulation in the basin. Public Works staff has had many discussions with several individuals over the last year and is aware of three concerns of the Wildwood Lake HOA. The concerns are silting of the upstream end of the lake, trash and debris in the lake and finally algae blooms in the lake.

I started conversations with Ralph Carpenter in late February to discuss the algae problems and how the city might be able to assist the association. I met with Ralph Carpenter on April 14 to view the area and discuss the algae problem, however there was no algae problem at the time and we agreed that he would call me when the algae problem was noticeable. I never heard from Mr. Carpenter and later determined that Mr. Carpenter had left the area after a phone conversation with Jerry Kinman in the first week of July.

I then scheduled a meeting with Mr. Kinman to discuss the issues of the lake on July 20th. We met and viewed the concerns of the HOA. Mr. Kinman presented several issues of the home owners association and included debris in the lake, algae, and sediment build-up. Mr. Kinman informed me that the HOA can't afford to dredge the lake as they have in the past. Part of the affordability issue is increased costs from contractors due to environmental issues and general inflation and the second issue was low participation rates in the HOA. Many homes on the north side of the lake do not participate in the HOA and to compensate for the low participation rate the HOA had recently increased assessments to the homes that are in the association. The increased assessment has led to an increase in the balance the association has for lake maintenance. I am not certain of the available balance that the HOA has but Mr. Kinman stated the balance would be quickly depleted or exceeded by the cost of dredging.

The HOA believes if the upper reach of the lake were deeper that the algae blooms would be decreased and thereby address two issues at once. A deeper upper end of the lake may or may not have an impact on the algae as there are more variables to the growth of algae such as nutrient load, oxygen content and water surface disturbance.

Mr. Kinman presented an alternative plan to dredging where the city would participate in the removal of silt from the lake. The home owners association would incur the expense of a "long-reach" excavator to excavate the sediment and the city would provide the trucking and disposal site for the sediment removed from the lake. I stated the plan might be possible, but that the Board of Aldermen would have to specifically approve the action. I also stated that a permit might be

required from the Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Natural Resources. I have recently had discussions with the Army Corps of Engineers and from our initial discussions a permit may not be required but further clarification will be needed to determine the exact method of excavation and disposal of sediment. A Department of Natural Resources land permit will be required and a storm water pollution prevention plan established by a qualified professional as a condition of the permit.

The lake does serve to help in the peak reduction of storm water downstream but is more of an amenity to the surrounding property owners rather than a necessary storm water control structure. If the storm water control provided by the lake were required, then typically the City would utilize dry bottom storm water basins and not lakes due to the maintenance of lakes. All lakes experience sedimentation and the impacts of the sedimentation must be acknowledged as required in local design standards. As an example the city recently constructed a detention basin north of 67th Street, upstream of the lake to mitigate peak runoff rates into the lake and that detention basin was a “dry-bottom” basin due to lack of space and maintenance considerations.

The lake and walking trails are restricted to the home owner association members who are in good standing and general residents of Raytown are not permitted to enter. Considering the restrictions of use of the lake and the lack of required storm water purpose the board must consider the precedent that would be set if the city were to participate in the sediment removal from the lake.

Alternatives:

Budgetary Impact:

Not Applicable

Additional Items Attached: August 25 letter from Wildwood Lake



August 25, 2011

Mayor David Bower
Alderman Joe Creamer
Alderman Shane Par-Due
Alderman Jim Aziere
Alderman Jim Hamilton
Alderwoman Charlotte Melson
Alderwoman Christine White
Alderman Bill Van Buskirk
Alderman Pat Ertz
Alderman Michael Lighfoot
Alderman Steve Mock
Raytown City Hall
10000 E 59th Street
Raytown, Missouri 64133

Subject: Public-Private Partnership Opportunity – Wildwood Lake

Dear Elected Officials:

I am writing you to discuss the silting issue at Wildwood Lake. The outcome of this discussion is to show the need to form a public-private partnership to remediate water quality problems, protect property values and ensure the City has future capacity to continue to utilize Wildwood Lake as a de facto storm water retention basis.

As you are probably aware, the City has been using Wildwood Lake since the late 1920's as a de facto storm water retention system. Due to this continual use and upstream built-out of Raytown since the 1920's, there has been considerable silting of the lake. This silting has resulted in the destruction of the lake's capacity. Additionally with upstream lawn chemicals deemed dumped in the lake, we have seen a serious reduction in the lake's water quality. Annually, we experience large algae blooms. Further, due to the City's lack of a storm water clean-up program, we also experience trash and debris being washed in the lake. These issues need to be addressed.

In December 2010, we spoke Alderman Mock about our concerns and proposed solution. We were certainly left with the impression from him that Public Works would help us resolve the problems. Nothing has been done. Shirley Wittman wrote a letter to Mr. Andy Noll about these problems. She received no response from Mr. Noll. Nothing has

been done. During the first week of February 2011, communication of these problems was provided to the Board during a regular Board meeting. We certainly left that meeting believing an action plan would be forthcoming. Nothing has been done. We met in March 2011 with City staff again. Meeting upon meeting and nothing has been done.

We further discussed this issue with Mr. Noll about the three weeks ago. He state that he was going to start a discussion with the MDNR on the proper disposal of lake silt/refuge and was also to have his crews start a clean-up program on the storm drainage inlets feeding the upstream water to the lake. Finally, we thought something was going to be done.

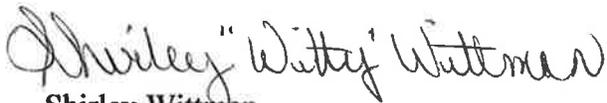
I spoke with Mr. Noll on August 18, 2011 and was informed that he had not started the project as he was busy on budget. So again, nothing has been done.

Our request is simple and doable. We propose to supply equipment for removal of silt from lake. We ask the City to provide transportation and disposal of silt from lake.

The City undertakes many public-private partnerships through its economic development plan. The outcome of our request would protect home values, provide for ongoing capacity of the City to discharge storm water into the lake and ensure improved water quality.

Since we will soon be coming to the anniversary date of our initial request to the City, we believe we have been patient and deserve a response on what will be done and when.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shirley Wittman".

Shirley Wittman

President Wildwood Lake Homeowner Association