

P U B L I C   N O T I C E

A Joint Meeting Of The  
CITY COUNCIL, TAYLOR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND THE  
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD

to be held

MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1981  
AT 10:00 A.M.

In the LIVING ROOM of the ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY CAMPUS CENTER

Consider County Jail Site on City-Owned Property

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the above notice of meeting was posted on the bulletin board at the City Hall of the City of Abilene, Texas, on the 26 day of March, 1981, at 3:00 p.m.

  
Assistant City Secretary

ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY  
CAMPUS CENTER LIVING ROOM

The City Council of the City of Abilene, Texas, met in Joint Workshop with the County Court & Judge and the Parks & Recreation Board, on Monday, March 30, 1981, at 10:00 a.m. with Mayor Oliver Howard present and presiding. Councilmen Seaton Higginbotham, Dick Bowen, Leo F. Scott, S.M. Moore, Jr., L. D. Hilton and Councilwoman Kathy Webster, present. City Manager Ed Seegmiller, City Attorney Harvey Cargill & City Secretary Ruth Hodgins, present.

Those present with Taylor County were the following Commissioners, Downing Bolls, Sr., J. T. McMillon, John Hancock & Joe McDuff. County Judge James Mcmillon, County Clerk Janice Lyons & their architect for the new jail, James Wheeler, Boone & Pope Architects, present.

Those present from the Parks & Recreation Board were: Dr. Ralph Hester, Worthy Long, Frank Meyers, Robert Hart & Dwain Hart. Perry Scott, Community Services Director, was also present.

Invocation by Councilman Leo F. Scott.

Mayor Howard asked Mr. Seegmiller to brief the Council, Parks & Recreation Board and County Court officials.

Mr. Seegmiller pointed out that the Staff would be presenting background information on possibilities and alternatives in two areas. He said that he hoped that they could present enough information on whether to allow property to be used at all, or whether they agree that the request is justified and that something could be worked out to the point of requesting the County to proceed with a site plan, so that specifics can be drawn out. Then the Council and Parks Board could work out an arrangement that might be necessary at this time and could proceed from that point.

Mr. Seegmiller said that Perry Scott, Harvey Cargill & Lee Roy George, City Staff, would be doing presentations.

Mr. Scott, using a series of maps, showed how the jail, a separate juvenile facility and an expansion of the Maxwell Municipal Golf Course to another 36 holes might be done on City owned land north and south of South 27th, with the addition of about 15 acres of privately owned land.

Mr. Scott said that they needed approximately 120 acres of land for a good golf course, depending on the lay of the land, etc. The jail and juvenile facility would take about 25 acres, including about 8 acres of City owned land not needed for animal control expansion. Those 8 acres are not under Parks Board jurisdiction. He said that the 15 acres of privately owned land south of South 27th Street, east of the meandering Cedar Creek that now borders the Municipal Golf Course. That land is now agricultural open space, used for running cattle.

Harvey Cargill explained that the City owned land can be conveyed to the County for good and valuable consideration. He said that good and valuable consideration is a benefit given the City. He said that the benefit could consist of the condition that the projects be architecturally designed to permit future expansions of City jail on the site, or that future projects, such as a battered person center and a juvenile center be constructed at the location. It is also possible that the City could execute a site usage agreement similar to the one that was executed with the state for our fire station site. In either agreement conditions can be provided to insure that the buildings and use of the premises are architecturally pleasing with the surroundings and that future usage of the land for joint City and County enterprises are accommodated.

Worthy Long, Parks Board Member, made a proposal that the County acquire some property of about 5 acres and swap to the Parks Dept. for the acreage that they want from the Parks Dept.

Ralph Hester, Chairman of the Parks Board, questioned whether the County would need all of the 25 acres that they were talking about.

Judge McMillon discussed how the property could be jointly utilized & whether the City and County could operate a joint operation. He said that Class A & Class B prisoners always ended up in the County Jail, so he thought it would be a mutually beneficial situation.

Judge McMillon discussed whether the County would acquire the land and turn it over to the City or whether the City would acquire the land outright. He also brought out and discussed the joint utilization contract and the need for it to be agreeable with the County and City.

Dr. Hester said that 62 acres was out of the question, but 20 to 25 acres could be worked out if the County could purchase 5 acres to swap to the Parks Department.

Dr. Hester asked the Parks Board if they would approve the concept of the 25-27 Street acreage, and the joint utilization contract if something could be worked out for the Parks Board to have the land that they needed for their golf course?

Frank Meyers, Parks Board Member made the motion to approve the above discussed concept and the motion was seconded by Board Member Bob Hart. The motion carried as follows:

AYES: Board Members Hester, Meyers, Hart, Long & Hart.

NAYS: None.

James Wheeler discussed the way the proposed jail could be placed on the land and the need for it not to be in a narrow strip. He said that the placement of the jail on the proposed land also had to do with the flood plain.

The Council discussed the joint utilization contract, the retention of sufficient land to construct the 36 holes of golf, etc. They said that they needed to have more specific information before making a specific decision on either the contract or the land.

Judge McMillon asked the Commissioners if they had their mind made up as to which location they preferred for the construction of the new jail facility and they responded as follows:

Commissioner Downing Bolls, Sr. said that he favored the South 25-27 Street location under the right conditions.

J. T. McMillon & Joe McDuff said that they are for considering the site as a possibility.

John Hancock said that he favors a downtown site and has all along.

Judge McMillon said that he favored the South 25-27 Street site.

It was the belief of the Judge that when the City needed to use the jail, that they would only need to lease approximately five beds or so, they would not want to build a separate facility. He also said that there would only need to be one juvenile facility, when it was constructed.

Dr. Hester suggested that the County choose one of two sites at the South 25-27 street location, then acquire the land south of S. 27th in exchange for that.

Condemnation for land that would not be used for city facilities was discussed.

Mayor Howard said that it boiled down to the Parks Board going along with the land deal if the Parks Dept. can still construct a well arranged 36 hole golf course at the Municipal Golf Course.

Mr. Seegmiller said that there were several points which needed to be looked at when drawing up the joint utilization contract, that he would hate to be tied into something that had to be approved by the then Council.

Whether the City would still offer land at other locations was discussed. Highway 36 location was brought up and it was noted that the City would need to acquire some additional land before this site would be sufficient.

Mr. Seegmiller asked if the Board and Council agreed on the concept, and asking the County to prepare and bring back a site plan, even though it might be a preliminary site plan so that the City & Parks Board could make the decisions they have to make.

Mr. Seegmiller asked them to agree on the utilization concept, so that they could be working on this.

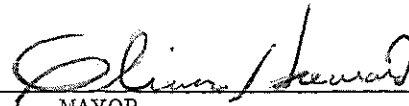
Judge McMillon said that it boiled down to what land is available and what conditions it can be used. If this is going to require a site plan or whatever, they will proceed.

Mayor Howard said that since this was a joint utilization thing he proposed that the County and the City together pay the architect an amount of about \$500.00, not more than \$500.00, to get together a preliminary plat, so that everyone will know where they are.

Judge McMillon asked if the City would be checking into acquiring the necessary property in order to have the necessary acreage to construct the jail facility on and he said that the County would also check into it.

The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Howard at 12:10 a.m.

  
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CITY SECRETARY

  
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MAYOR