



Department Source: City Utilities - Sewer/Stormwater

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: May 4, 2020

Re: Authorizing a license agreement with the Mid-Missouri Radio Control Association to use a portion of City-owned land used by the Sewer Utility for the wastewater treatment plant to fly remote control airplanes for recreational purposes.

Executive Summary

Staff has prepared for Council consideration a resolution which will authorize the City Manager to execute a license agreement with the Mid-Missouri Radio Control Association to use a portion of City-owned land used by the Sewer Utility for the wastewater treatment plant to fly remote control airplanes for recreational purposes.

Discussion

On April 6, 2012, Council authorized a license agreement with the Mid-Missouri Radio Control Association (MMRCA) to use a portion of City-owned land used by the wastewater treatment plant to fly remote control airplanes for recreational purposes. Exhibit A attached to the license agreement shows the portion of the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) being used by MMRCA. This property is well suited for use by the MMRCA to fly airplanes as it is relatively flat pasture land and is located in an area without homes or other buildings nearby. The property was originally used for disposal of sludge generated at the WWTP and is currently used only for hay production. The use for sludge disposal was discontinued in 1995 due to changes in federal regulations related to sludge disposal and excessive levels of nitrates in groundwater monitoring wells on the site. In addition to use by the Mid-Missouri Radio Control Association, future uses for this property include a natural resource for the Army Corps of Engineers Hinkson-Perche Wetland Mitigation Bank, pending approval, and the Perche Creek Trail. Allowing the MMRCA to utilize this site for flying remote control airplanes will not interfere with the City's current or proposed future uses of the property at this time.

Recently there was a meeting with Sewer Utility staff, MMRCA and the Longview Neighborhood Association to discuss flight path, noise and proximity of planes to the homes. Noise and proximity issues have been resolved to the best of the City's knowledge.

MMRCA requested updating this license agreement now to include the option of flying gas turbine powered aircraft. At this time, the City has also updated the agreement to incorporate changes in Federal Aviation Administration rules and federal laws regarding the flying of unmanned aircraft. This license agreement would allow the MMRCA to use the City property, for a period of five years, at no cost, with an option to extend the agreement for an additional five years. It also allows the MMRCA to maintain the following improvements on site, at the expense of the MMRCA: A gate and drive, an airstrip, a storage shed on skids, portable toilet and a pavilion. All other improvements would have to comply with all



applicable City Codes. The agreement also restricts the hours of use by the MMRCA and prohibits used during the City's harvest of the hay crop.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: None.

Long-Term Impact: None.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

[Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Operational Excellence, Secondary Impact: Not Applicable, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities, Secondary Impact: Land Use & Growth Management, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

Legislative History

Date	Action
08/06/2012	R 124-12 Authorizing a license agreement with the Mid-Missouri Radio Control Association to use a portion of City-owned land used by the Public Works Department for the wastewater treatment plant to fly remote control airplanes for recreational purposes.

Suggested Council Action

Staff recommends approval of resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a license agreement with the Mid-Missouri Radio Control Association to use a portion of City-owned land used by the Sewer Utility for the wastewater treatment plant to fly remote control airplanes for recreational purposes.