

# **BEMIDJI CITY COUNCIL**

## **Work Session Agenda**

**Monday, May 23, 2016**

**City Hall  
Conference Room  
5:30 P.M.**



1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL
  
2. HOCKEY DAY REQUEST
  
3. ADJOURNMENT

***NOTE: All cellular telephones, pagers and BlackBerry devices to be switched to a non-audible function during Council and Committee meetings.***



City Manager's Office

# MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Honorable Mayor Albrecht and City Council  
**FROM:** Nate Mathews, City Manager *Nate*  
**DATE:** May 23, 2016  
**RE:** Hockey Day request

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Presently there is an initiative by a local organizing committee to bring "Hockey Day" to Bemidji in 2018. Hockey Day is a special MN winter sports promotional event that is hosted in partnership with Fox Sports North (FSN) and a local community to celebrate the sport of hockey in MN, particularly outdoor hockey. The committee is planning on submitting a proposal to FSN later this summer and the event is typically held in January/February.

Kevin Waldhausen and Tom Kuesel are members of the committee and will be at the work session to discuss the event/proposal.

Marcia and I have had some preliminary meetings and discussions with Kevin and Tom over the past few weeks regarding the best locations and how the City can assist with this event. The committee has reviewed various locations to hold this event and concluded the best location is the South Shore, as it will provide good TV camera shots, open space, and access to the Sanford Center. Part of the overall event typically includes a special interleague Division I hockey game. Both Bemidji State University and University of Minnesota are currently discussing scheduling a 2018 game as part of this event.

The committee is requesting to use Lot 1 Block 5 of the South Shore for outdoor rinks and bleachers. In addition, the committee is requesting the City place a contingency in any potential purchase agreement (that could develop) that no construction would be allowed to commence prior to the spring of 2018. This request serves to stabilize the proposal request to FSN.

**Recommendation:**

Discuss this proposal with members of the local organizing committee and provide direction on how to proceed with the request at an upcoming Regular Council meeting.

## WHY HOCKEY DAY BEMIDJI 2018?

Hockey Day Bemidji's Local Organizing Committee has a number of reasons for seeking the privilege of hosting Hockey Day Minnesota. First and foremost, and in keeping with the spirit of Hockey Day, our main purpose is to honor and promote the unique culture of outdoor hockey in Northern Minnesota and throughout the State of Hockey.

In this regard we would be dedicating all funds raised from the event toward the expansion of outdoor hockey in Bemidji by the construction of additional outdoor facilities for use by local youth hockey players. We believe that the addition of outdoor hockey opportunities in Bemidji will not only grow our youth hockey ranks and solidify our youth hockey organization, it will grow the game as a whole and it will continue a recent revitalization of the hockey culture in our community.

Hosting Hockey Day Minnesota would also provide Bemidji invaluable exposure as a regional economic hub and a desired travel destination to Fox Sports North's Hockey Day television viewership, which reaches more than 2 million homes and could include up to ten hours of local coverage on Hockey Day. This would be the largest single promotion of Bemidji in the city's 120-year history!

This event would have a tremendous economic impact on local businesses, including before, during, and after the actual games are played. It would also allow us to showcase Bemidji High School, Bemidji's South Shore Development, the Sanford Center, and Bemidji State University's Division I hockey programs.

Additionally, hosting Hockey Day Minnesota would be a terrific opportunity to demonstrate the passion Bemidji has for the game of hockey and the spirit of cooperation that exists among the various partner organizations willing to dedicate themselves to make Hockey Day a resounding success in Bemidji.

Hosting Hockey Day Minnesota is a 'once-in-a-lifetime' opportunity for the community, and Bemidji's time is now!



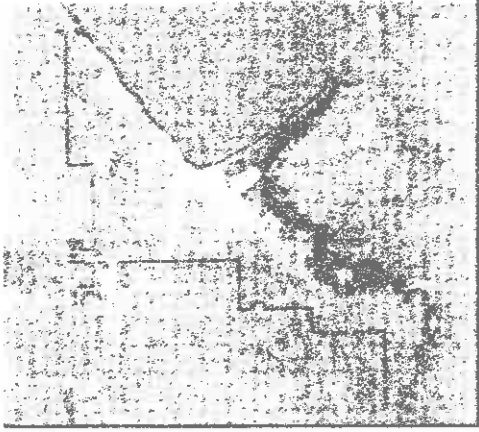
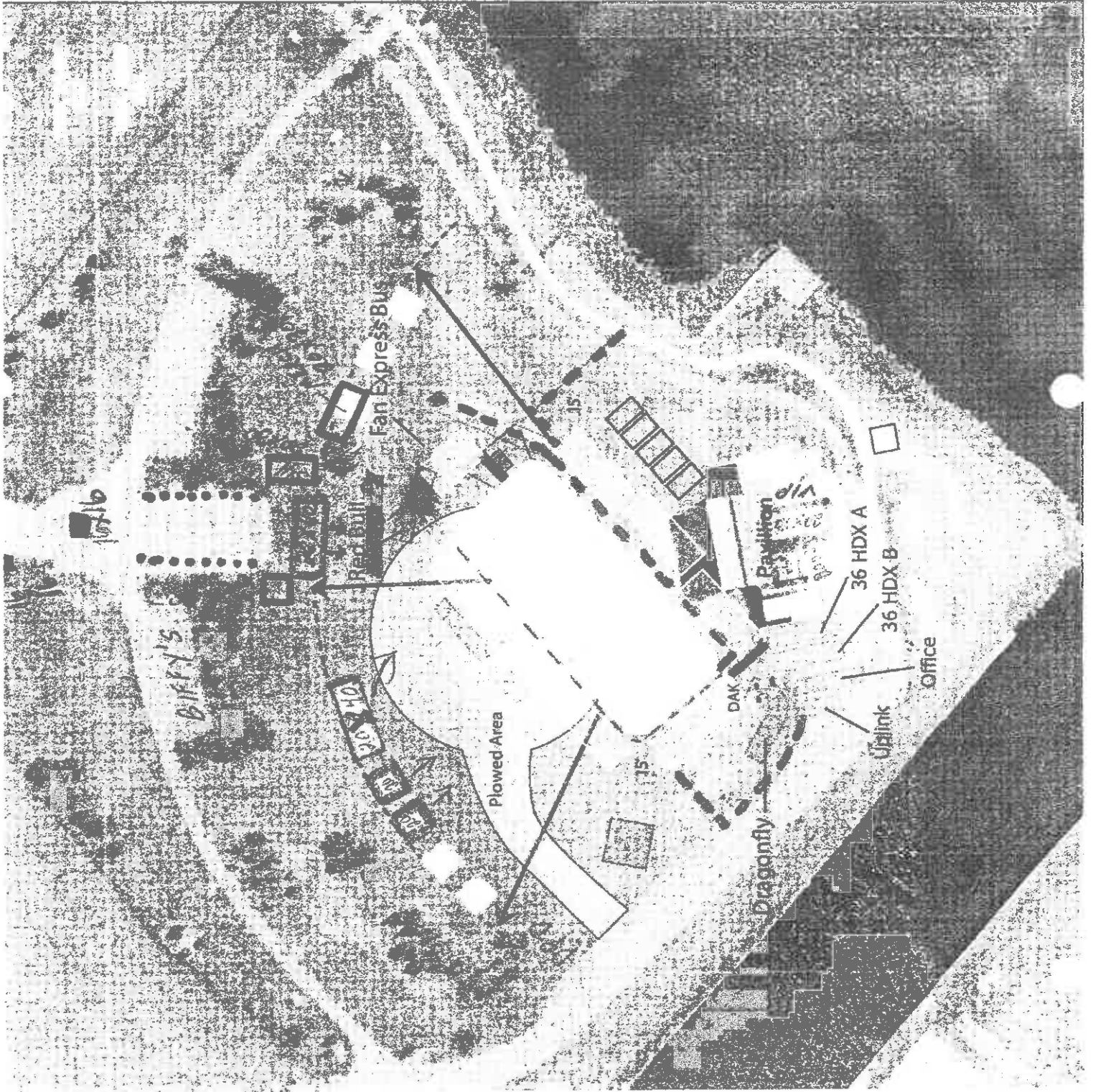
Village of  
South Shore

Hockey Day  
lot request

# HOCKEY DAY MINNESOTA



STILLWATER



- Bleachers
- Cameras
- Player Benches
- Annc Booth
- Food Vendors
- FS North Trucks
- FS North Desk
- Referee Room
- Locker Rooms

FS North Version 4 - 2-2-16



1 Inch = 40 Feet  
 St. Louis County Inc.