



SMALL TOWN, BIG BEACH™

Memorandum

Date: January 15, 2020
To: Mayor Craft
City Council
From: Grant Brown
Cc: Steve Griffin
Subject: Proposed purchase of real property adjacent to Sportsplex

ISSUE: Authorize Mayor to negotiate and accept Purchase Agreement for real property.

BACKGROUND: In 1998, the Blackwell family generously assisted the City in acquiring nearly 100 acres of land on Oak Road West to build the Gulf Shores Sportsplex. The amenities constructed provided sports facilities for Gulf Shores High School, a newly formed County school. In 2008, additional facilities were constructed to provide recreational space for our growing residential population and to support the emerging sports tourism market that has thrived and resulted in millions of dollars of economic impact during shoulder seasons and reduced the dependency of “beach only” tourism. Recently, the Blackwell family approached the City once again and offered to sell their family’s 7.3+/- acres adjacent to the Sportsplex.

Anticipating the continued growth in this area and to help satisfy the existing demands placed upon our current facilities, a Master Planning project for the Sportsplex has been planned for 2020 and \$10,000 was approved in the 2020 Budget to assist. The opportunity to add acreage to the Sportsplex and include it in our Master Planning exercise is vital to our continued success and we recommend the City move forward with the purchase of this important piece of property.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Authorize the Mayor to negotiate and accept a contract purchase agreement between RE/MAX Paradise and the City for the purchase of real property located at 18999 Oak Road West adjacent to the Sportsplex in an amount not to exceed \$441,050.00 (Lot 1 Omega Acres, 7.3+/- acres; Parcel #61-09-37-0-000-177.005; PPIN231053).

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS: This was a non-budgeted item. The purchase will require an amendment to the 2020 General Fund Budget.

RELATED ISSUES: None

ATTACHMENTS: Draft Resolution, Map of Property

DEPARTMENT: Recreation & Cultural Affairs Department

STAFF CONTACT: Grant Brown, Director