

**OCTOBER 20, 2021
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
ADDITIONAL MATERIAL/REVISIONS**

REQUESTED ADDITIONS TO THE PACKET:

<u>ACTION</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>REQUESTED BY</u>
Add to item D.4.	Ordinance No. 3251-2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supplemental Memo	City Clerk
Add to item G.7.	Discussion of Kenai Dog Park <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supplemental Memo	City Manager



KENAI

City of Kenai | 210 Fidalgo Ave, Kenai, AK 99611-7794 | 907.283.7535 | www.kenai.city

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Brian Gabriel and Kenai City Council
FROM: Jamie Heinz, City Clerk
DATE: October 20, 2021
SUBJECT: **Ordinance No. 3251-2021**

For clarification, the reason introduction and enactment of Ordinance No. 3251-2021 is needed in the same meeting, which is provided for pursuant to KMC 1.15.070(d), is because approval of the Clerk's Contract, item G.5. on this agenda, is a part of the need for the increased appropriation.

Your consideration is appreciated.



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Gabriel and Council Members
FROM: Paul Ostrander, City Manager
DATE: October 18, 2021
SUBJECT: Discussion Item – Kenai Dog Park

Pat Porter, former Kenai Mayor, provided a letter to Council on September 26, 2021, requesting Council take action in three areas:

1. Appropriate the Daubenspeck Funding as a grant, removing the expectation of these funds being reimbursed.
2. Consider appropriating additional funding from the Daubenspeck Funds toward finishing this park in the way it should be for its citizens.
3. Consider writing a Tier I grant to the Rasmuson Foundation.

This memo is intended to provide background information for Council and to address these three requests.

In 2018, the City Council passed Resolution 2018-52, authorizing the use of an approximately 22,500 square-foot area of Daubenspeck Family Park for the construction of a Kenai Dog Park after a formal presentation by the Kenai Dog Park Committee at the Parks and Recreation Commission. The Resolution states a committee of community volunteers have offered to design and construct an off-leash dog park at no expense to the City.

Ordinance 3211-2021, adopting the annual budget for FY2021, included a \$25,000 grant to the Kenai Community Dog Park from the City's General Fund. At the May 19, 2021 public hearing on the Ordinance, a letter from Ms. Porter requested the City Council appropriate \$25,000 from the Daubenspeck Fund and stated, "every effort will be made to reimburse the Daubenspeck funding." A motion to amend the Ordinance to appropriate \$25,000 from the Daubenspeck Fund for the Kenai Dog Park was made; however, the amendment failed. Funding in the amount of \$25,000 from the City's General Fund was approved. Although Ms. Porter stated that their intent was to return the money to the City, and discussion by Council when considering the motion indicated that Council hoped that the money would be reimbursed, Council included no requirement in the motion that the Kenai Community Dog Park reimburse these grant funds.

The City has deposited \$21,120 of the \$25,000 appropriated for the Kenai Dog Park in the Kenai Community Foundation bank account to pay for fencing. In addition to funds donated by the City, there have been additional private donations of \$28,970.

In addition to funding, the City has provided support from the Parks and Recreation department on improvements to the property, including drafting the concept plan through the River, Trails and Conservation Assistance program and assisting with volunteer planning meetings, coordination with Peak Oilfield Services and L&J Enterprises for clearing and dirt work and with Salamatof Native Cooperation for dirt work and leveling of area, assisting volunteers with brush clearing, tree pruning and original measuring/staking of the park, removal of approximately 30 beetle-kill trees, mowing grass growing in a cleared area, measuring and staking out property for fence work; meeting with Fireweed Fence to review layout, grubbing out a 15'x25' area for small dogs, providing an update to the Kenai Rotary Club, and storing donated tires at the City yard along with trash cans that volunteers will paint.

It appears that City and community support and fundraising have been successful. Between private donations and the grant from the City, the funding gap between income and budgeted expenditures to complete the park has been reduced to \$2,830. Fundraising over the course of the winter will likely close most if not all of this gap, indicating that an additional appropriation is not necessary at this time.

In July, the City hired a Temporary Grant Writer who is primarily focused on grant opportunities to fulfill match requirements for our Bluff Stabilization Project and pursuing funding for water and sewer projects that have been identified in the City's five-year capital improvement plan. Based on the limited amount of additional funds needed to complete the park and the importance of continued focus on funding for the Bluff Stabilization Project and needed water and sewer improvements, tasking the Temporary Grant Writer to apply for a Tier 1 Rasmuson Grant for the Kenai Dog Park is likely not the best utilization of that position.

