

JOURNAL OF COMMISSION WORK SESSIONS
November 20, 2007

City Commission Work Session

Mayor Dona Stebbins presiding

CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL: City Commissioners present: Mayor Stebbins, Bill Beecher, Sandy Hinz, Diane Jovick-Kuntz and John Rosenbaum. Also present were the City Manager, Assistant City Manager, Acting Directors of Public Works and Park and Recreation, Fiscal Services, Assistant Fire Chief, Police Chief and the City Clerk.

1. CENTENE STADIUM TOUR AND UPDATE – GREAT FALLS WHITE SOX

President of the Great Falls Baseball Club Vinney Purpura provided background information about the park and the GFBC. The management of the park was taken over from the City in 1969. Mr. Purpura advised that there are 150 shareholders in this community owned franchise. The shareholders do not receive dividends and all the profit goes back into the stadium. The Great Falls White Sox play 85 games, and community kids play over 100 games of baseball per year, resulting in a significant economic contribution to the community. He added that the Pioneer League is in its best financial condition and attendance right now.

Major renovations were recently completed to the visitor's dugout, MVP area, left field project, and added a new visitor's clubhouse, umpire's quarters and ADA restrooms. The City contributed \$750,000 which helped put the park in compliance with baseball standards.

Mr. Purpura discussed the areas that still need to be addressed which included asbestos removal, electrical and ventilation deficiencies in the main concession area, and water leaking in the main concourse. He stated they are working on a grant award for the asbestos removal in the amount of \$200,000.

Mr. Purpura discussed the Phase V project costs and the Fusion bid in the approximate amount of \$832,000. He proposed that the City equally partner with the GFBC again and each contribute approximately \$750,000.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, Mayor Stebbins adjourned the work session of November 20, 2007.