



# Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request

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Agenda Item #

**Requested Meeting Date:** January 5, 2021

**Title of Item:** Conveyance of Tax Forfeited Land to Hill City

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGULAR AGENDA	<b>Action Requested:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Direction Requested
<input type="checkbox"/> CONSENT AGENDA	<input type="checkbox"/> Approve/Deny Motion	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Item
<input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION ONLY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopt Resolution (attach draft) <i>*provide copy of hearing notice that was published</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold Public Hearing*

<b>Submitted by:</b> Rich Courtmanche	<b>Department:</b> Land
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<b>Presenter (Name and Title):</b> Rich Courtemanche, Land Commissioner	<b>Estimated Time Needed:</b> 10 min
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**Summary of Issue:**

The Aitkin County Land Department offered a lot for public sale at the last land auction on October 2, 2020. The lot has not sold. The lot is described as a: 30ft strip in SW NE Doc 175875 Less Part in Doc 403753 (PID 57-0-002304). Hill City desires for this land to be conveyed to the city to be used as a road (Pine St.).

The laws that govern tax forfeited lands (282.01 Sub1a 2e) states that "Nonconservation tax forfeited land held in trust.. may be conveyed by the commissioner revenue...to a governmental subdivision for an authorized public use if an application is submitted to the commissioner includes a statement of facts as to the use to be made of the tract and the favorable recommendation of the county board... Authorized public uses defined in this paragraph are limited to:(1) a road, or road right-of-way for a road"

The request to the commissioner of revenue needs a favorable recommendation by the Aitkin County Board.

**Alternatives, Options, Effects on Others/Comments:**

The lot is substandard in width and is unlikely to sell except to adjoining land owners. The lot is configured to serve as a road. The lot would serve as public access to Hill City school property.

**Recommended Action/Motion:**

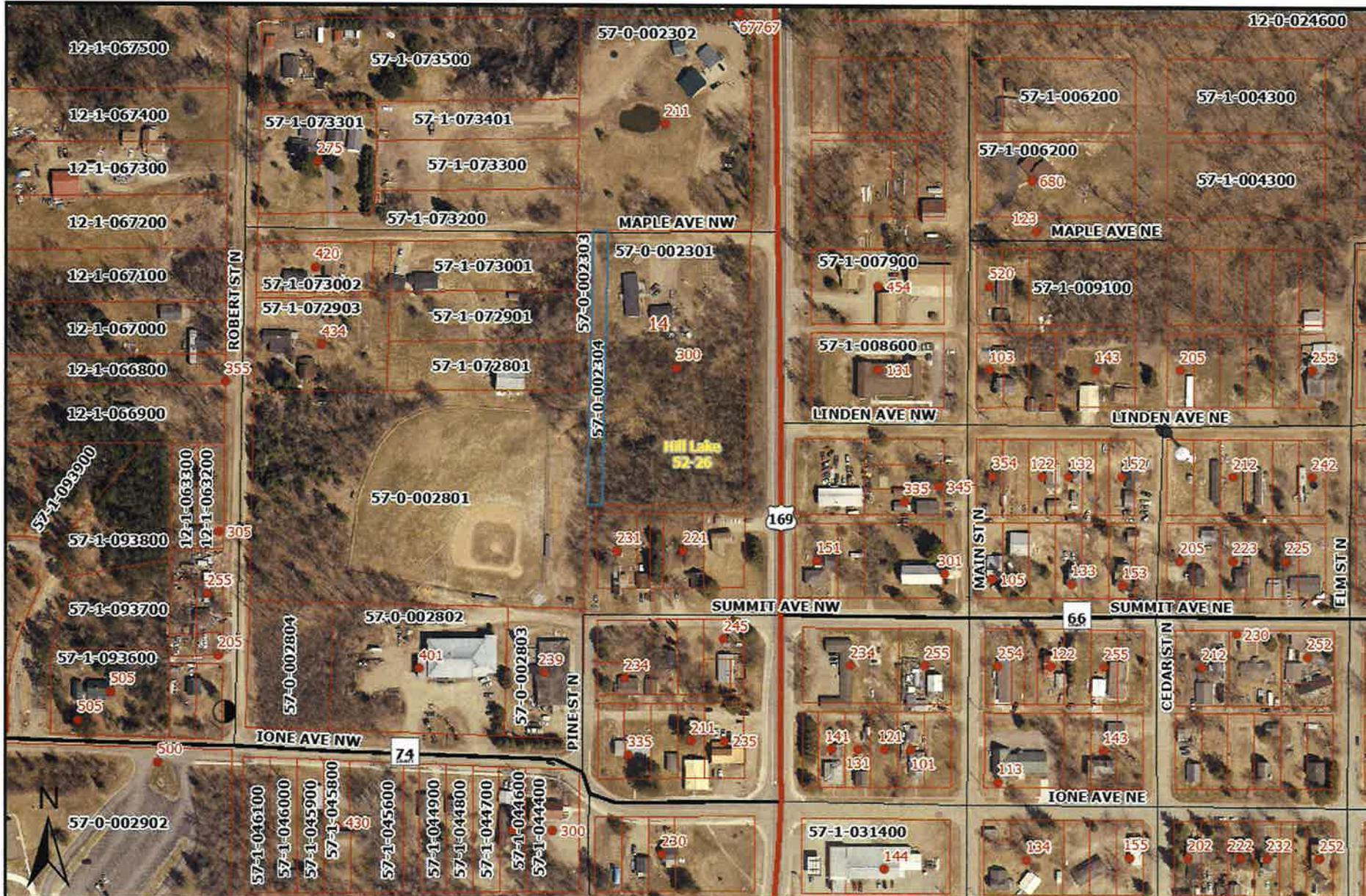
Approve the attached resolution for the conveyance of the listed parcel to the city of Hill City

**Financial Impact:**

Is there a cost associated with this request?  Yes  No

What is the total cost, with tax and shipping? \$ \$2,600

Is this budgeted?  Yes  No *Please Explain:*



These data are provided on an "AS-IS" basis, without warranty of any type, expressed or implied, including but not limited to any warranty as to their performance, merchantability, or fitness for any particular purpose.

57-0-002304

0 140 280 ft 1 inch = 369 feet

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Date: 12/3/2020

**City of Hill City**  
**Regular Council Meeting Minutes**  
**October 8, 2020**  
**Location: Hill City Fire Hall**  
**111 Henrietta Ave.**

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Kingsley called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. Council present: Mayor Dan Kingsley, Council Members; Lin Benson, Wayne Lindquist, and Sean Lathrop. Employees present: Jeremy Nelson, Fire Chief, Ron Saxton, Assistant Fire Chief, George Casper, Head of Maintenance and Part-time Police Officer Jeff Madsen.

Additions or Corrections to the Agenda

Motion by Lindquist to add to Old Business: - f. Blight second by Benson. MPU

Public Forum – No comment from public

Consent Agenda

Motion made by Benson to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: minutes Regular Council meetings of September 22, 2020, Treasurer's Report - Bills \$38,216.85, EFT's \$7,205.95, Transfers \$0 and Payroll \$8,522.16 for a total of \$53,944.96 second by Lathrop. MPU

Reports:

Maintenance

- Landscaping in front of City Hall is in progress.
- Cementing is done at City Hall.
- The motor went out on the crane for pulling sewer pumps, new one is ordered

Water

- Nothing to Report

Sewer

- Update on Cattails. \$75/gallon and need 20 gallons. This will treat 200 gallons for water for spraying.

Parks

- The light poles are in progress.
- Closing the park on October 22<sup>nd</sup>

Airport

- Posting No Trespassing here and working on getting them up.

Streets

- 3 of the new streetlights are up. The 4<sup>th</sup> one they want an extra \$500 because there is no transformer.
- The ditching is done on Cedar St. across from the City Shop.
- The culvert in the alley behind the motel is done.
- The new barricades are in place on Lake Ave. and Ione Ave.
- Been picking leaves up from the curb and gutters

Trail

- Nothing to report.

Mayor Kingsley asked when the Dump Station gets winterized. Casper stated there is no specific date to winterize it. He tries to wait as late as possible, but it depends on the weather.

## Blight

Council Member Lathrop was wondering where we were at with the blight letters/fines. Council Member Benson will follow up with Police Chief Kimball about citations.

## New Business

### Fire Relief Association raising the retirement amount - Jeremy

Fire Chief Nelson asked the Council about raising the Retirement level for the Fire Relief Association to \$1,200.00. There would be no additional cost to the City if they approved the raise.

Motion made by Lindquist to increase the retirement level to \$1,200.00 with no municipal contribution effective January 1, 2021 second by Lathrop. Lathrop voted yes, Benson voted yes, Lindquist voted yes, and Kingsley abstained. MPU

### Park Committee's Recommendation for 2021 Park Host

No action will follow up with them in January.

### Police Schedule

With the Chief being out on medical. Officer Saxton will cover a couple of early morning shifts. Officer Madsen will work some evening shifts.

Council Member Benson will work with Chief Kimball on developing the schedule. The Council does not want to get rid of the Police Dept. but wants to see more visibility and productivity. When given a directive they expect it to be followed.

Part-time Officer Kniefel should be tested since he was working closely with someone who tested positive. He needs a negative test or be quarantined for 14 days from exposure before returning to work.

Maki Auto Body called and said Police SUV repairs should be done tomorrow.

When a City vehicle is in an accident the City Council to be notified prior to repairs being done to decide what should be done.

### Police Coverage Area

Hill City Police Department should be patrolling within City Limits not 2 – 3 miles out of town. This needs to be reiterated with the part-time officers.

### Lake Ave. and Pine St.

Mayor Kingsley would like support from council to contact the property owners on the corner of HWY 169 and Lake Ave. West about getting a 30' x 100' piece of ROW that was previously vacated back. The Council supports him contacting the owners.

There is a strip of property on Pine St. going North towards Maple Ave. that is not developed, next to baseball field, that was on the County Land sale that did not sell. Mayor Kingsley asked the Council to talk to Aitkin County about acquiring this piece of property for possible future development of Pine Street. The City Council gave Mayor Kingsley permission to move forward.

### Budget Comparison

Council Member Lindquist asked about fund balances for departments and investments for the past 4 or 5 years. Looking at unallocated funds and has this increased over the past few years. Deputy Clerk Meyer is working on getting the numbers for him and the rest of the Council. Looking at to figure out where fund balance came from.

CERTIFIED COPY OF RESOLUTION OF COUNTY BOARD OF AITKIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

ADOPTED January 5, 2021

By Commissioner: xxxx

20210105-xxx

Conveyance of Tax Forfeited Land to Hill City

WHEREAS, the parcel of land described as a 30 ft strip in SW NE Doc 175875 less part in Doc 403753 located in Section 14, of Township 52N Range 26W went tax forfeited in 2019.

WHEREAS, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners classified this parcel of land as nonconservation at a public hearing on April 28, 2020 at 10:00am at the Aitkin County Library for the classification of parcels of tax-forfeited lands,

WHEREAS, the parcel of land was offered at public land auction on October 2, 2020 at 1:00pm at the Aitkin County Fairgrounds,

WHEREAS, the parcel of land remains unsold,

WHEREAS, the city council of Hill City has made a formal intention for the parcel to be conveyed to the city to be used as a road at the October 8, 2020 regular city council meeting at the Hill City Fire Hall

WHEREAS, the lot is suitable in width and location to serve as a public road

WHEREAS, the Aitkin County land commissioner finds no objection to the request

WHEREAS, the laws that govern tax forfeited lands (282.01 Sub 1a 2e) states that Nonconservation tax forfeited land held in trust may be conveyed by the commissioner revenue to a governmental subdivision for an authorized public use if an application is submitted to the commissioner includes a statement of facts as to the use to be made of the tract and the favorable recommendation of the county board

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners agrees with the statement of facts and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, declares a favorable opinion that the Commissioner of Revenue should proceed with the application of conveyance of this parcel to the city of Hill City for use as a road

Commissioner xxxx moved for adoption of the resolution and it was declared adopted upon the following vote

FIVE MEMBERS PRESENT All Members Voting

STATE OF MINNESOTA}  
COUNTY OF AITKIN}

I, Jessica Seibert, County Administrator, Aitkin County, Minnesota do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing with the original resolution filed in the Administration Office of Aitkin County in Aitkin, Minnesota as stated in the minutes of the proceedings of said Board on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2021 and that the same is a true and correct copy of the whole thereof.

Witness my hand and seal this 5<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2021

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Jessica Seibert  
County Administrator