

**BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS  
RESOLUTION**

PRESENTED BY  
COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_

**No. 20-727**  
DATE June 9, 2020

**WHEREAS**, The Board of Water Commissioners of the City of Saint Paul owns land just south of the historic Highland Water Tower which is currently the site of an eighteen-million-gallon reservoir (“Property”); and

**WHEREAS**, due to a decrease in water demand in the area serviced by the reservoir, the structure is no longer needed and was decommissioned over five years ago and staff has been planning for the demolition of the structure; and

**WHEREAS**, at its December 12, 2017 meeting, the Board heard proposals from five entities which included proposals from City of Saint Paul Parks and Recreation and Ramsey County Parks and Recreation for construction of public use facilities at the Property; and

**WHEREAS**, at its March 13, 2018 meeting, the Board passed Resolution No. 18-444, stating the Board of Water Commissioners of the City of Saint Paul agreed there is a need and desire for additional park and recreation facilities at this location, and directed staff to confer and negotiate with the City of Saint Paul and Ramsey County on a long term lease agreement for use of the Property for approval by the Board; and

**WHEREAS**, also at its March 13, 2018 meeting, the Board further resolved and directed staff to delay plans to demolish the reservoir until said lease agreement is approved and the funding for the construction of public park and recreation facilities is budgeted and approved by the appropriate public entity; and

**WHEREAS**, staff of the Board and Ramsey County have now met, conferred, and agreed that the demolition of the reservoir could be more efficiently accomplished if done collaboratively with the planned Ramsey County parking lot improvement project adjacent to the reservoir; and

**WHEREAS**, there is an immediate need for the excavated soils and ground concrete produced by the demolition of the reservoir at the nearby Ford Redevelopment Site; and

**WHEREAS**, to realize these efficiency opportunities, the Board would need to rescind its directive to delay plans to demolish the reservoir as was further resolved through passage of Resolution 18-444 at its March 13, 2018 meeting; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Water Commissioners of the City of Saint Paul does hereby specifically rescind its directive to staff to delay plans to demolish the reservoir until said lease agreement is approved and the funding for the construction of public park and recreation facilities is budgeted and approved by the appropriate public entity. The rest of Resolution 18-444 shall remain as originally passed; and, be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board hereby directs staff to continue to work, plan, and partner with the City of Saint Paul Parks and Recreation Department towards a long-term lease agreement for public park and recreation facilities on the site.

**Water Commissioners**

**Adopted by the Board of Water Commissioners**

**Yeas**

**Nays**

**June 9, 2020**

**In favor**

**Opposed**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

ORIGINAL