

Water & Sewer Agenda Summary

Date: February 15, 2023

Key Staff Contact: Alex Tennant, Water Resources Administrator

Title:

Approval of Lowell Property Grazing and Farm Lease (A&A Farming)

Summary:

In November 2021, the City acquired approximately 135 acres of land located north of Greeley along F Street between 35th and 59th Avenues (Lowell Property), along with 13.4 shares of the Greeley Irrigation Company (GIC) and a two-year obligation after closing to purchase one additional share of GIC. For the past 20 years, the Adams family has been leasing the GIC water and approximately 86 acres of the Lowell Property for grazing and farming. The Adams family has requested to continue leasing this portion of the Lowell Property as well as the 14.4 shares of GIC from Greeley for one more year. The subject Grazing and Farm Lease would allow the Adams family one additional year of farming the property, and would terminate on December 31, 2023. The lease amount is \$9,000.00 and would be paid in two installments of \$4,500.00. The lease amount matches the rate paid by the Adams family to the former owner of the Lowell Property.

City staff are evaluating future uses of the Lowell Property, which could include a new Water and Sewer or multi-department shop facility, City-owned natural areas, and trail corridors. Portions of the property may be divested, with the proceeds appropriated for additional water purchases. The subject Grazing and Farm Lease maintains status quo while the city's evaluation proceeds. Staff are satisfied with the Adams family past farming operation, evidenced by their maintenance of the property, and believe a continuation of the lease with a one-year term is in the interest of the Water and Sewer Department. Water and Sewer staff recommends that the Water and Sewer Board approve the enclosed Grazing and Farm Lease Agreement between the City of Greeley and A&S Farming LLC (Kurt Adams).

Recommended Action:

Staff recommends that the Water and Sewer Board approve the Lowell Property Grazing and Farm Lease Agreement with A&A Farming LLC.

Recommended Motion:

"I move that Board approve the Lowell Property Grazing and Farm Lease Agreement with A&A Farming."

Attachments:

Grazing and Farm Lease Agreement including exhibits