



City Council Agenda Report

City of Long Lake
450 Virginia Avenue
Long Lake, MN 55356

MEETING DATE / October 6, 2026

SUBJECT: Approve the Purchase of a New Portable Ice Rink System

Prepared By: Amanda Nowezki, City Administrator

Report Date: 10/2/2026

Recommended City Council Action

Staff recommends the following:

Motion to approve the purchase of a new portable ice rink system for a dollar amount not to exceed \$36,000; and to authorize staff to enter into an annual maintenance agreement for the installation, storage, and maintenance of the rink for up to an additional \$12,000 per year.

Overview / Background

Currently, the Holbrook Park ice rink is potentially non-operational due to significant grading issues, deteriorating boards, and an ineffective design that overall renders it difficult for our limited Public Works staff to adequately flood or maintain.

In recent years, staff has explored various strategies to address the challenges we face with the ice rink area. Key issues identified have included the need for correcting surface grading, anticipated costs of a variety of options for rehabilitating the rink and improving flooding/maintenance efficiency, the availability of Public Works staff time, and options for making the warming house available for skaters continuously rather than subject to the City's ability to find interested rink attendants. Previously proposed solutions have included the installation of a concrete slab estimated to cost around \$100,000, as well as considering opportunities to collaborate with outside organizations that would necessitate limiting open skate hours for residents. Recently, staff began exploring the option to consider contracting for a seasonal/portable ice rink system to potentially include ongoing maintenance, and we've learned that doing so may be both a viable and financially sound solution.

Following a recommendation from the City Council and with the help of the Park Board, an online survey was created and distributed to hear more about resident priorities for and use of the Holbrook Park ice rink area. Survey results are still coming in and the Park Board has not yet had a chance to review these results. However, at first glance, it seems that use and importance of an ice rink is pretty divided among residents.

To provide residents with an improved ice skating option for the 2026-2027 season, staff proposes the acquisition of a portable ice rink system that would be smaller than the current rink, along with contracting for annual maintenance. Doing so would appear to provide a feasible and accessible ice skating experience for our community without limiting flexibility for other or future park uses. Unfortunately, this is a time sensitive decision for consideration – in order to prepare portable rink equipment for this upcoming winter skating season, the vendor would need to know whether the City will be moving forward with a purchase by no later than October 9.

Supporting Information

- Seasonal/portable Ice rink quotes
- Diagrams of seasonal/portable ice rink options