



## CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** 08/09/2022

**REQUESTER:** Jason Olsen

**PRESENTER:** Jason Olsen, Director of Parks and Recreation

**ITEM TITLE:** CONSIDERATION OF ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF A DONATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100,000 FROM THE NORMAN PARK FOUNDATION TO THE NORMAN MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY TO BE USED FOR IMPROVEMENTS AT THE WESTWOOD GOLF COURSE AND BUDGET TRANSFER AS OUTLINED IN THE STAFF REPORT.

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### **BACKGROUND:**

In 1972, Mr. Lionel Bentley was hired as an assistant Parks Superintendent, and over the years, Mr. Bentley rose to the position of Director of Parks and Recreation. In 1984, he left the Parks and Recreation Department and began a career in a private business running a sod farm.

### **DISCUSSION:**

In the Fall of 2021, Mr. Bentley contacted the Norman Park Foundation regarding “giving back to the City.” Lionel Bentley wanted to deed his commercial property to the foundation, and a portion of the sale of the building be used towards improvements for the Westwood Golf Course. These improvements include bunker renovations, sod improvements, driving wall netting, retaining walls, and a Potential Hydrogen (pH) monitoring system for the Westwood irrigation pond.

On December 29, 2021, Lionel Bentley deeded the commercial property to the Norman Park Foundation. In March of 2022, Mr. Bentley passed away suddenly before he could be recognized for his generous donation. The property was sold in June of 2022.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Norman Municipal Authority and City accept the donation of \$100,000 from the Norman Park Foundation to be deposited into Donations - Organizations (299-363373). City staff further recommends appropriating those funds to Bldg Maint-Other Building Materials (29970231-43499) for various improvements at the Westwood Golf Course.