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**MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
**CC:** JOSHUA M. TETZLAFF, CITY ADMINISTRATOR  
**FROM:** KEN ONDICH, PLANNING /COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR  
MATT RYNDA, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR  
**SUBJECT:** MEMORIAL PARK BALLFIELDS DUGOUTS – DONATION FROM NEW PRAGUE BASEBALL BOOSTER CLUB  
**DATE:** FEBRUARY 13, 2025

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In the past two years, the City has accepted donations from the New Prague Baseball Booster Club of dugouts at the Foundry Hill Park Baseball Field and batting cages at Memorial Baseball Stadium with the donations valued in excess of \$51,000.

The New Prague Baseball Booster Club once again approached the Park Board at their meeting on February 11th to inquire about donating four dugouts at the Memorial Park Ballfields which could be used by both youth baseball teams that currently are utilizing the fields and also by softball teams, should that use come back to the park in the future. The Park Board voted 4-0 to recommend acceptance of the donation of the dugouts at their meeting with the recommendation that the City work with the Booster Club to minimize the reduction in field length, if possible, due to the installation of the dugouts.

If this donation is accepted by the City, they would like to start construction (with an approved building permit as necessary) this fall so that the work is completed for use starting right away in 2026.

**Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the City Council accept the donation of the dugouts at the Memorial Park Ballfields from the New Prague Baseball Booster Club by approving the attached resolution.

## Information from Park Board Packet on February 11, 2025

### Dug Outs at Memorial Park Fields

**Background of Issue.** Public Works Director Matt Rynda will be present at the meeting to discuss the New Prague Baseball Boosters idea to donate dug outs for the Memorial Park ball fields. Attached is a set of plans for the dug outs (4 total 10' x 24' dugouts – 2 for each field) that they donated at Foundry Hill Park recently, pictures of the Foundry Hill Park dugouts and finally a site plan of the proposed locations.

They also would like to move both fields 10' further away from existing backstops which would include extending the existing ag-line infield an additional 10' as well. This would effectively shorten the field from 280' to 270'. It is noted that neighboring cities softball fields are as follows: Lonsdale – 260' to 275', Belle Plaine – 270', Shakopee – 275', Montgomery – 230' to 270'. The changes to the field would not prevent softball from being played on the fields.

There would be no monetary outlay from the City, but city staff would provide some labor in the efforts.

**Recommendation of Action.** Staff recommends that the Park Board recommend that the City Council approve the donation of dugouts and associated work to the Memorial Park Ball Fields from the New Prague Baseball Booster Club.

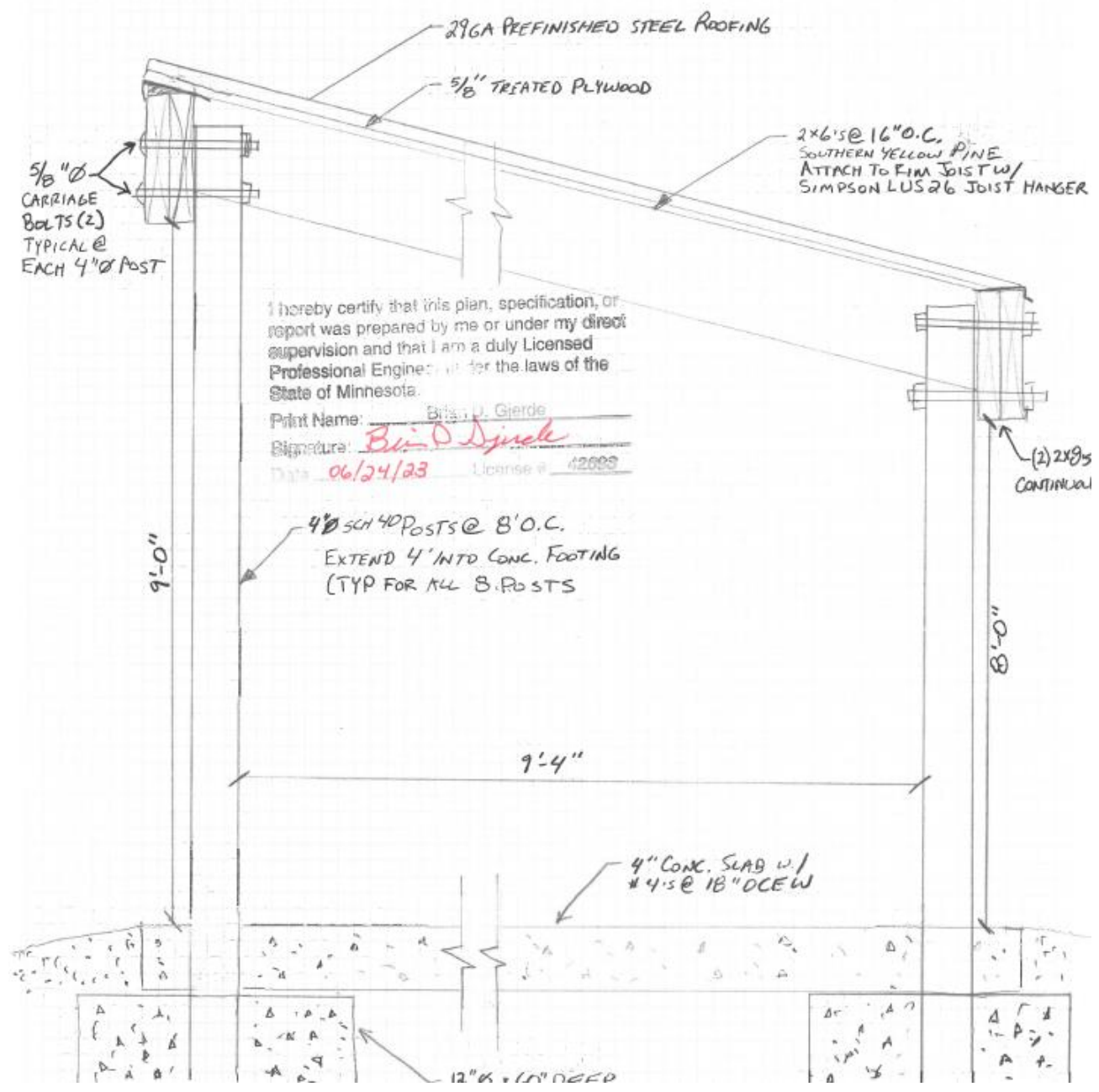
**Below are pictures of the dugouts donated at Foundry Hill Park.** The proposed dug outs would be very similar.







Project: NPYBA DUGOUTS - 10'x24'  
 Location: NEW PRAGUE  
 Sheet Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Of \_\_\_\_\_  
 Calculated By: BDG Date: 6/24/23  
 Checked By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



I hereby certify that this plan, specification, or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota.

Print Name: Brian J. Gierde

Signature: *Brian J. Gierde*

Date: 06/24/23 License #: 42693



