



	Approved	Denied
Action taken	9/9/02	
Other:	Amended 9/9/02	
Date of Council Action:		
Verified by:	[Signature]	

WASILLA CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

CM No. 02-49

TITLE: American Legion Post #35 Request for Formal Possession of Ballfields

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: September 9, 2002

ADMINISTRATION INITIAL: [Signature]

REQUESTED BY: Administration

PREPARED BY: Administration

Date Prepared: August 29, 2002

FISCAL IMPACT:

If yes, amount requested: \$ Account No.:

SUMMARY STATEMENT: The City of Wasilla has received a letter from the American Legion, Post #35 asking the City of Wasilla to formally commit to the American Legion being able to retain possession of the ballfields that they have been using and maintaining since the 1980s, at their own expense and efforts.

STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION: Council to ~~discuss approval of~~ ^{approve the} American Legion's request for formal possession of ballfields. *and bring back a contract for approval.*

Attachments: Letter from Louis McManus, American Legion Post #35



AMERICAN LEGION

SUSITNA VALLEY POST #35 · BOX 370 · WASILLA, ALASKA 99687

August 27, 2002

CITY OF WASILLA
-MAYOR'S OFFICE
290 E. Herning Ave.
Wasilla, Alaska 99654

Attn: Mayor Sarah Palin

CM
SP
Done mb
8/29/02

RECEIVED

AUG 26 2002

CITY OF WASILLA, ALASKA


Dear Mayor;

Now that your tenure in office is rapidly coming to a close, I would like to say that I feel you have done a great job and worked wonders for the city. Needless to say that the road to Lt. Governor will be difficult and even if Miss Piggy from Homer beats you, your time will come. Having said that, I would like to address the reason for this letter.

Speaking to Coach Powell, regarding the American Legion ball field, I was told that the issue of our retainment has not been settled. Since Dana Stoker has moved to the south, I feel the need to make this request. Speaking for all of Post #35, we hope that you can do something in our behalf to alleviate the spector of possession being stripped from us by some new, unfeeling or uncaring Mayor and their parks manager. I could easily type six pages on our efforts to build this field with little money and volunteer help. It took four (4) years to build the field.

Wasilla had no field beyond little league. We practiced in sand lots and behind the WHS and played our games out of town. Mayor Newcomb came to my business in the summer of 1983 and took me to the present location and asked if we could do something with it? I told him yes and he brought it before the council and had public hearings and more council meetings and they voted to give 10 acres to the Legion with everything except "fee simple" possession. This land was comprised of a large hill and a marsh. We did everything including the existing well and the sodding and seeding and 4 years later, dedicated back the remainder of the land in order that the soft ball league could build fields. Wasillas entire contribution to the field had been the loan of their grader to Ted Cremer so that he could finish grading our field. We currently spend \$20,000.00 each year on the baseball program. It would be a travesty for us not to have a paper for our files that states that we would retain governing possession for as long as we continue to keep up the field at our expense and efforts

Thanking you in advance, for your considerations and help in this matter, I am most respectfully yours,


LOUIS S MCMANUS
Judge Advocate
Post #35