

City of South St. Paul, Minnesota

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-018

RESOLUTION REQUESTING \$450,000 IN STATE ASSISTANCE TO ENABLE THE ADDITION OF DEHUMIDIFICATION EQUIPMENT WITH HEATING, VENTILATION, & COOLING CAPABILITIES FOR RINK #1 AT DOUG WOOG ARENA

WHEREAS, Doug Woog Arena within the City of South St. Paul serves broad based public recreation interests in the southeast metro area with the two sheets of ice providing for hockey, figure skating, and other recreational uses, and

WHEREAS, the original Mighty Ducks funding program as created in 1995 was used to expand Woog Arena in 1997; and

WHEREAS, the City spent \$2.4 million of voter approved referendum dollars in 2014 to upgrade Woog Arena including the elimination of the R-22 refrigerant; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, the Minnesota Legislature renamed the Mighty Ducks program to the James Metzen Mighty Ducks Ice Arena Grant Program to honor former Minnesota State Senator and South St. Paul resident James Metzen who was a tireless supporter of youth hockey and ice sports in Minnesota and who was also instrumental in creating the original Mighty Ducks program in 1995; and

WHEREAS, and South St. Paul was not able to take advantage of the 2016 program because of improvements made in 2014; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Bonding Bill also provided funding for HVAC improvements at arenas, but only for those facilities using gas powered ice surfacing equipment; and

WHEREAS, the ice surfacing equipment in Woog Arena is electric powered thereby making South St. Paul ineligible for those funds; and

WHEREAS, it is commonly known that ice arenas are not renowned for being financial self-sustaining and assistance from the State of Minnesota would improve the financial viability of Doug Woog Arena; and

WHEREAS, Rink 1 of Woog Arena is now over 50 years old and the spectator heating system needs to be replaced at a cost of approximately \$50,000; and

WHEREAS, an investment in a dehumidification system with heating and cooling capabilities would make Rink 1 useable on a year-round basis for ice and non-ice events for the southeast metro region; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of South St. Paul, Minnesota, as follows:

1. The City of South St. Paul is respectfully requesting \$450,000 of State funding to offset the additional costs associated with upgrading Rink 1's heating/ventilation/cooling system to provide for dehumidification of this space to make it useable on a year-round basis for the southeast metro area for ice and dryland activities.

2. The City of South St. Paul will contribute the first \$50,000 of project costs based on replacement of the overhead spectator heating system.

3. The City Clerk is hereby authorized to execute this resolution on behalf of the City.

Adopted this 19th day of January, 2021.

BY:



City Clerk