

CITY OF MIDLAND OWNED OPEN SPACE LAND USE



City of Midland Property



**Can a farmer's market
be put on the Putnam
Park site?**

March 3, 1975

The City Council Official Summary of states:

“Approved policy reaffirming that all park lands in the city shall not be developed for use other than parks and recreation by the following vote: yeas – Diesen, Friedle, McCreadie, Holthofer: Nays – Goodenough.”

May 21, 1975 Council action established sixty three (63) parks.

ARTICLE II. ESTABLISHMENT OF CERTAIN AREAS FOR PARK AND RECREATIONAL PURPOSES

Sec. 17-15. Kaufman Park established.

Sec. 17-17. Adams Park established.

Sec. 17-19. Siebert Park established.

Sec. 17-21. St. Mary's Park established.

Sec. 17-23. Huron Park established.

Sec. 17-25. Valley Park established.

Sec. 17-27. Orchard Park established.

Sec. 17-29. Sunset Park established.

Sec. 17-31. Wyndemere Park established.

Sec. 17-33. Castle Park established.

Sec. 17-35. Ottawa Park established.

Sec. 17-37. Oak Park established.

Sec. 17-39. Gleanoak Park established.

Sec. 17-41. Longacres Park established.

Sec. 17-43. Plymouth Park established.

Sec. 17-45. Hillgrove Park established.

Sec. 17-47. Briarwood Park established.

Sec. 17-16. Birchwood Park established.

Sec. 17-18. Mac Park established.

Sec. 17-20. Glencoe Park established.

Sec. 17-22. Lalkwood Park established.

Sec. 17-24. Sturgeon Creek Park established.

Sec. 17-26. Garden Park established.

Sec. 17-28. Wheeler Park established.

Sec. 17-30. Meadowbrook Park established.

Sec. 17-32. Devonshire Park established.

Sec. 17-34. Barstow Woods Park established.

Sec. 17-36. Chatham Park established.

Sec. 17-38. Lowell Park established.

Sec. 17-40. Greenfield Park established.

Sec. 17-42. Wallen Park established.

Sec. 17-44. Burlington Park established.

Sec. 17-46. Chestnut Hill Park established.

Sec. 17-48. Stratford Woods Park established.

Sec. 17-49. Griese Park established.

Sec. 17-51. Parkdale Park established.

Sec. 17-53. Dartmouth Park established.

Sec. 17-55. Virginia Park established.

Sec. 17-57. Parkwood Park established.

Sec. 17-59. Crane Park established.

Sec. 17-61. Noeske Park established.

Sec. 17-63. Manor Park established.

Sec. 17-65. Allen Park established.

Sec. 17-67. Grove Park established.

Sec. 17-69. Emerson Park established.

Sec. 17-71. Currie Golf Course established.

Sec. 17-73. St. Charles Park established.

Sec. 17-75. Waterworks Park established.

Sec. 17-77. Pine River Park established.

Sec. 17-50. Ann M. Winger Park.

(Formally established Gary Park)

Sec. 17-52. Wyllys Park established.

Sec. 17-54. Washington Woods Park established.

Sec. 17-56. Maryland Park established.

Sec. 17-58. Lincoln Park established.

Sec. 17-60. Currie-Bennett Park established.

Sec. 17-62. Dartmoor Park established.

Sec. 17-64. Nelson Park established.

Sec. 17-66. Central Park established.

Sec. 17-68. Fournie Park established.

Sec. 17-70. Revere Park established.

Sec. 17-72. Chippewassee Park established.

Sec. 17-74. Reserved. (Prior Plumer Park)**

Sec. 17-76. City Forest established.

Sec. 17-78. River Bend Park established.

June 2, 1975 Council action approved proposed language to amend Section 5.7 of the Midland City Charter

Language as of June 2, 1975:

The Council shall have the power to enact all ordinances deemed necessary for the establishment, maintenance, and protection of all parks and recreational facilities, together with the improvements thereon and appurtenances thereto, owned or hereafter acquired by the city either within or without its corporate limits.

Approved proposed language:

The Council shall have the power to enact all ordinances deemed necessary for the establishment, maintenance, and protection of all parks and recreational facilities, together with the improvements thereon and appurtenances thereto, owned or hereafter acquired by the city either within or without its corporate limits. **Once established, no park shall be discontinued or used for purposes other than public recreation, natural preserve or as a greenbelt unless such discontinuance or other use shall be approved by a majority of the electors of the city voting at a general election.** [Emphasis added.]

August 5, 1975 proposed language to amend Section 5.7 of the Midland City Charter was passed by the voters

This language is still a part of our current Charter, reading as it did when passed and added to the Charter August 5, 1975. The section reads in its entirety:

The Council shall have the power to enact all ordinances deemed necessary for the establishment, maintenance, and protection of all parks and recreational facilities, together with the improvements thereon and appurtenances thereto, owned or hereafter acquired by the city either within or without its corporate limits. **Once established**, no park shall be discontinued or used for purposes other than public recreation, natural preserve or as a greenbelt unless such discontinuance or other use shall be approved by a majority of the electors of the city voting at a general election. [Emphasis added.]

IMPORTANT DATES:

- March 3, 1975 – Council intent
- May 21, 1975 – ordinance established sixty three (63) parks
- June 2, 1975 – proposed Charter language
- August 5, 1975 – Charter language approved by voters

Between 1981 and 2000, four (4) additional parks were established and added to Chapter 17 of the Code of Ordinances.

Those parks are:

Sec. 17-79. Thrune Park established. (1981)

Sec. 17-80. Hart Park established. (1990)

Sec. 17-81. Pere Marquette Rail-Trail Park established. (1996)

Sec. 17-82. Theis Park established. (2000)

Non-ordinance parks:

Disc Golf Course

Riverside Golfside Park

Blake Park

Russell Park

Kent Park

Trilogy Skate Park

Gerstacker Spray Park

Towsley Dike Park

Northwest

Redcoats Softball Complex

Hintz Park

Cleveland Park

Putnam Park

Arbury Centennial Park

Caldwell Boat Launch



City of Midland Property



PUTNAM BRIDGE PROPERTY ACQUIRED



City of Midland Property



October 2, 1968 there was a formal bridge dedication, ribbon cutting ceremony, parade and bridge walk.



"WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE A WALK?" The old popular song could have been the theme for Sunday's "bridge walk" on the new Dr. Mark E. Putnam Bridge over the Tittabawassee River in Midland. The public was invited to come and walk out onto the bridge

and view displays set up by Midland City Engineer Douglas A. Wolcott and his staff, who were present to answer questions regarding the high level span. The Midland Jaycees sponsored Sunday's event and served coffee and doughnuts to the visitors.

Daily News Photo

Bridge dedication Tuesday

Dedication of the new \$1,858,000 new high-level bridge in downtown Midland Tuesday morning will stress the "bridge of friendship" theme.

In keeping with this theme, city officials in charge of the dedication program are urging those residents residing south of the Tittabawassee River who plan to attend the program to view it from that side of the river.

They can reach the scene of the program by using the south approach, park their cars on traffic lanes and shoulders and best view the ribbon cutting from the center of the bridge.

They are further asked to follow on foot behind the Bullock Creek High School band to the rear of the ribbon cutting program.

The two-part event will start 10:30 a.m. at Main Street and the northeast bridge abutment.

Mayor H. C. Allison will open the program by announcing the sponsor of the dedication, Douglas Hall, Sr., will give an eulogy, citing the benefits received by Midland from the efforts of Dr.

Mark E. Putnam, for whom the bridge has been named.

Mrs. Putnam will unveil the memorial plaque after which Dr. Theodore M. Greenbow, pastor of the Memorial Presbyterian Church, will give the invocation.

Mayor Allison will present flowers and a gift to Mrs. Putnam on behalf of the council.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled for 11 a.m. at the center span of the bridge.

After Mrs. Putnam and members of her party have been seated on the speakers' platform, the Bullock Creek delegation, from the south end of the bridge, and the Central Intermediate band and color guard, starting from George and Ellsworth Street will march to the center span.

This part of the program will open with the National Anthem after which City Manager Fred L. Yockey will introduce Robert Brown, president of Brown Brothers, Inc., of Lansing, the bridge contractor. He will make presentation of the bridge to Mayor Allison.

The mayor will deliver an acceptance address entitled "Bridge of Friendship."

Responses will be made by Joel H. Kahn, chairman of the Midland County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the people of the county and by Robert Chatterton, Midland Township supervisor, for his township.

Allison, Kahn and Chatterton will then carry out the ribbon cutting. City Manager Yockey will then invite everyone present to join in a motocade.

A luncheon will be held 12:30 p.m. at the Midland Country Club for those who participate in the project and its dedication.

On the list of special guests from out of town is Henry Stafford, state highway director.

Members of Mrs. Putnam's family will include her son, M. S. Putnam, and wife; a daughter, Mrs. R. W. Caldwell and husband; S. W. Putnam, a member of Dr. Putnam, and his wife, all of Midland; Earl Putnam, a brother, and his daughter, Miss Grace Putnam, both of Ovid; Mr. and Mrs. Hall, Dr. and Mrs. Greenbow.

Besides the dedication and ribbon cutting participants, others to be seated on speakers' plat-

form will be Mrs. Allison, Councilman and Mrs. Julius Blassy, Councilman and Mrs. Arthur Chomitek, Councilman and Mrs. Sidney B. Schneider, Councilman and Mrs. Gene W. Neff, Jr., Mrs. Kahn, Mrs. Chatterton, Mrs. Yockey, State Rep. and Mrs. Nelson G. Tidale, Sudath, and O. B. Falls, president of Commonwealth Associates of Jackson, consulting engineers for the bridge.

At the dedication luncheon, Municipal Judge Henry Hart will be master of ceremonies. The Rev. Thomas W. Ryan will give the invocation.

Brief speeches will be made by Dr. O. B. Hammer, a former councilman; Weyant Ferguson, former city manager; Raymond Jones, Lee Township supervisor; Rep. Tidale; Sudath, Falls, Yockey, Norman C. Ruppel, editor of the Midland Daily News; James Fisher of Fisher Sand & Gravel; R. L. (Bud) Parker, executive manager of the Greater Midland Area Chamber of Commerce; Harold Beecher, manager of the Dew Chemical Company's Midland plant; and Mayor Allison. 9-23-36

Why the bridge name of Dr. Mark E. Putnam?

Name new bridge after Dr. Putnam

Midland's city council unanimously named the new bridge Monday evening in memory of Dr. Mark E. Putnam.

Prior to his death in 1908, Dr. Putnam had been executive vice president of the Dow Chemical Company. He had been associated with Dow since 1915 as an organic chemist and industrial leader.

The council's resolution noted "there was not any major community project which did not benefit from his inspiration and participation."

It also resolved "that the new high-level bridge crossing the Titabawassee River in the City of Midland be designated the Dr. Mark E. Putnam Bridge for Dr. Putnam's contributions to the development and success of our community."

Mayor H. C. Allison explained that a committee of five citizens had been asked to recommend a name, based upon consideration of a deceased individual's contributions to the development and success of the City of Midland.

The committee was composed of Dr. W. R. Collins, Dr. E. R. Britton, William A. Gossing, Jr., John M. Henske and Norman

Rumple. This committee recommended the name of Dr. Putnam.

Zoning retained

The council unanimously voted to uphold the planning commission's recommendation that the rezoning request for several lots at the corner of Carpen and Barton streets be denied.

Richard T. Miller and William D. Sinclair had requested change from Residence A-1 to Office Service 2. Herbert H. Edwards, associated with Sinclair, suggested the property might be used as test or experiment to bring about more land use restrictions than could be guaranteed in the zoning ordinance. He offered to deed the land to the city so that restrictions could be placed in the deed back to the owners.

Mayor Allison said this was "one of the most constructive ideas I've heard of" but residents of the area were united in opposing any zoning change for the land. They claimed the lots were valuable as residential property and would be used for that purpose if made available at residential prices instead of commercial prices. . . .

Spokesmen for the neighborhood included Richard Johnson, E. A. Wecker, Leo Mara, Roger Bell, F. L. Scharf, and Douglas Long.

Public hearing

The assessment roll of \$200,000 was approved for the 1968 street improvement program after public hearing. Adjustments were made in two assessments.

The council then adopted resolutions of intent to issue special assessment bonds for streets in the above amount and also for \$305,906 in sanitary sewer bonds, and \$78,838 in water main bonds. Hearings were previously held on the sewer and water main projects.

Appointments

In other actions, Dr. E. R. Britton was appointed to the city's library board and Robert B. Bennett was appointed to the municipal building authority.

First reading was given an ordinance change establishing Industrial B zoning for 160 acres recently annexed in Section 26 of Larin Township and owned by Dow. 7-30-68

The 1968 -1969 Annual Report of the Parks and Recreation Department gave first insight to the turf area and its future use. It stated:

One new area was added to the Parks Division maintenance, this past year, with the completion of the Putnam Bridge. A small area on the north end, plus the banks, on both ends, will be maintained as turf areas. Plans are underway to put benches, walks, shrubs and flowers in “Putnam Park”.



City of Midland Property



Sec. 22-1. Use of public right-of-way.

(a) Any use or activity within the public right-of-way shall first require permission from the city council, either directly or as delegated by ordinance, except:

(1) The regular movement of vehicles and pedestrians when conforming to applicable traffic regulations.

(2) Landscaping and landscape maintenance not constituting a traffic hazard as determined by the city's traffic engineer.

(3) Picketing, either for economic or political purposes, when conducted in conformance with Chapter 16 of this Code.

(4) Any work by public employees or persons under contract to a public agency.

(5) The proper placement of refuse for collection by city forces.

(6) United States Postal Service boxes, or individual mailboxes for mail delivered by the postal service, when any such box is kept in good condition and does not constitute a traffic hazard as determined by the city's traffic engineer.

(7) Receptacles for newspapers only when attached to a support with a mailbox.

(8) Public utility facilities and operations when in accord with a state or city franchise, applicable plats, and this chapter.

(b) Contractors' trailers, reasonable quantities of material for adjacent construction, and certain structures and/or appendages thereto may be located within the public right-of-way in accord with Chapters 44 and 45 of the Uniform Building Code as adopted by this Code.

(c) The city council hereby delegates the review and approval of requests for neighborhood block parties to the city engineer who may issue a traffic control order permitting such activity.

Additional points:

1) Who operates the Farmers Market

1) Sales on City owned property or within parks and non-traditional recreational purposes

CONCLUSION

- Putnam Park is NOT an established park
- Putnam Park is NOT subject to the requirements and protections of Section 5.7 of the Midland City Charter
- Putnam Park CAN be used for a farmers market as allowed under Section 22-1 of the City of Midland Code of Ordinances



City of Midland Property



Farmer's Market

Parks & Recreation Concerns

1. Can Putnam Park be used for the purpose of a farmer's market?
2. Is there a need to maintain Putnam Park for some other form of parks and recreation use?