

Introduced by _____ Council Bill No. R 159-08

A RESOLUTION

naming the "Thomas E. 'Country' Atkins Jr. Memorial Park."

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The 80 acres of land located north of the Boone County Fairgrounds (Atkins property) is hereby designated "Thomas E. 'Country' Atkins Jr. Memorial Park."

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2008.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor and Presiding Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Counselor

Source

TO: City Council

FROM: City Manager and Staff 

DATE: June 9, 2008

RE: Approving An Official Name For The Atkins Property

Mike Hood 

Summary: In December of 2002, Mr. Tom Atkins donated 80 acres jointly to the City of Columbia and the County of Boone. In 2003, both agencies adopted a master plan for the site which called for the property to be primarily developed with youth athletic field complexes. In the spring of 2007, the County and the City entered into a management and operation agreement for the property which placed responsibility for development, operation, and maintenance of the site with the City's Park and Recreation Department. The first phase of development of the property, consisting of the construction of two full sized baseball fields, was initiated in the late summer of 2007 and is nearing completion. Staff has discussed the naming of property with Mr. Atkins and is recommending that the property be named in honor of Mr. Atkins' father, Mr. Thomas E. "Country" Atkins Jr. This resolution, if approved by Council, would officially name the 80 acre tract the 'Thomas E. 'Country' Atkins Jr. Memorial Park'.

Fiscal Impact

YES x

NO

Other Info.

Discussion: The City of Columbia has a long history of naming park properties in recognition of those individuals giving land to the City for such purpose. While Mr. Atkins' gift of the land to both the City and the County did not contain any stipulations with regard to naming the property, staff believes that such a generous contribution deserves such consideration. In discussions with Mr. Atkins, he has expressed an interest in having the property named in honor of his father, Thomas E. "Country" Atkins Jr. Staff is recommending that the property be officially named the Thomas E. "Country" Atkins Jr. Memorial Park.

The naming of the Atkins property was discussed at the both the May and June, 2008, Parks and Recreation Commission meetings. At the May meeting, staff was not able to provide the Commission with a specific recommendation, but did advise the Commission that staff was working with Mr. Atkins to develop a proposed name for the park. A motion was made and passed by the Commission "directing staff to move forward in working with the Atkins family in naming the property." At the June Commission meeting, staff advised the Commission that Mr. Atkins wished to name the park in honor of his father. The Commission unanimously passed a motion that "the Commission recommends that the Council officially name the Atkins property as the "Thomas E. 'Country' Atkins Jr. Memorial Park".

Staff has also contacted the County Commission in regard to the proposed name for the

property. The County has indicated their agreement with the concept of naming the property in honor of Mr. Atkins's father and on June 17th took official action supporting the naming of the property as the "Thomas E. 'Country' Atkins Jr. Memorial Park" (see attached certified copy of order).

Suggested Council Action: Approve the resolution officially naming the Atkins property the "Thomas E. 'Country' Atkins Jr. Memorial Park".

294 -2008

CERTIFIED COPY OF ORDER

STATE OF MISSOURI }
County of Boone } ea.

June Session of the April Adjourned

Term. 20 08

In the County Commission of said county, on the 17th day of June 20 08

the following, among other proceedings, were had, viz:

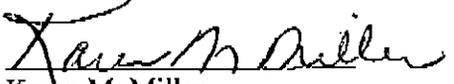
Now on this day the County Commission of the County of Boone docs hereby support the naming of the tract of land donated by Mr. Tom Atkins as the "Thomas E. 'Country' Atkins Jr. Memorial Park".

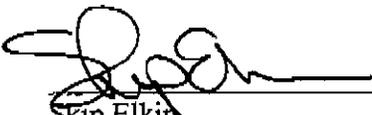
Done this 17th day of June, 2008.

ATTEST:


Wendy S. Noren
Clerk of the County Commission


Kenneth M. Pearson
Presiding Commissioner


Karen M. Miller
District I Commissioner


Skip Elkin
District II Commissioner