

RECREATION, LIBRARIES AND AUTHORITIES COMMITTEE

08-0764R

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH
ARROWHEAD ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

CITY PROPOSAL:

RESOLVED, that the proper city officers are hereby authorized to execute an agreement with the Arrowhead Zoological Society, Inc., under which the Arrowhead Zoological Society, Inc., would take over the operations of the Lake Superior Zoological Gardens, which agreement is on file in the office of the city clerk as Public Document No. _____; payment by the city will be made from Fund 200, Agency 130.

Approved:

Approved for presentation to council:

Department Director

Chief Administrative Officer

Approved as to form:

Approved:

Attorney

Auditor

PARKS/ATTY KB/GBJ:blj 12/4/2008

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: This resolution approves an agreement with the Arrowhead Zoological Society, Inc., to take over the operations of the Lake Superior Zoological Gardens (zoo).

The quality of the zoo has declined over many years and has meant the loss of accreditation, key leadership leaving out of frustration and significant unmet capital needs.

In December, 2006, a national planning firm recommended the operations of the zoo be shifted from government to a nonprofit.

Mayor Bergson began the process that was continued under Mayor Ness to investigate a process by which the zoo could be made viable. The result of the process is the agreement, which is in line with the national trend of zoos moving from public to private management.