



## City Council

### Approval of a Resolution Authorizing an Agricultural Lease Agreement with Spooner Berry Farm for Lease of Property Lying Adjacent to Yelm Highway

**Agenda Date:** 3/5/2019  
**Agenda Item Number:** 4.C  
**File Number:** 19-0208

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**Type:** resolution **Version:** 2 **Status:** Passed

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#### **Title**

Approval of a Resolution Authorizing an Agricultural Lease Agreement with Spooner Berry Farm for Lease of Property Lying Adjacent to Yelm Highway

#### **Recommended Action**

##### **Committee Recommendation:**

Not referred to a committee.

##### **City Manager Recommendation:**

Move to approve the resolution authorizing an agricultural lease agreement with Spooner Berry Farm for lease of property lying adjacent to Yelm Highway and authorizing the City Manager to sign the agreement.

#### **Report**

##### **Issue:**

Whether to approve an agricultural lease agreement with Spooner Berry Farm for lease of property lying adjacent to Yelm Highway

##### **Staff Contact:**

Jonathon Turlove, Director of Parks Planning and Maintenance, 360.753.8068

##### **Presenter(s):**

None - Consent Calendar Item.

#### **Background and Analysis:**

On September 28, 2018, the City purchased an 83.01-acre property located at 3323 Yelm Highway SE for future public use as a community park. The property had been owned by James and Sandra Zahn who had leased a large portion of the property to Spooner Berry Farms for many years. The first phase of park development will likely not happen until 2024. In the intervening years before development, the City has an interest in leasing the portion of the property that is suitable for agriculture (approximately 42 acres) to Spooner Berry Farms. This would allow them to continue

operating their U-Pick strawberry farm and berry stand on the property during this period. The lease is \$13,650 for one year and can be renewed annually.

**Neighborhood/Community Interests (if known):**

While the City does not have data, anecdotally it appears that the Spooner Berry Farms farm stand and U-Pick strawberry farm are very popular and highly valued by the community.

**Options:**

1. Approve the resolution authorizing an agricultural lease agreement with Spooner Berry Farm for lease of property lying adjacent to Yelm Highway and authorizing the City Manager to sign the agreement.
2. Do not approve the resolution authorizing an agricultural lease agreement with Spooner Berry Farm for lease of property lying adjacent to Yelm Highway and authorizing the City Manager to sign the agreement.

**Financial Impact:**

The lease agreement will generate \$13,650 in revenue to the City. In addition, if Spooner Berry Farm did not lease and manage this property during the interim years before development, Parks staff would have to mow and maintain this property at a significant cost.

**Attachments:**

Resolution  
Agreement