

**Memorandum
Community and Economic Development**

To: Randall Tweet, Interim City Manager
Subject: Farm Lease – Big Island Property
Date: June 1, 2017



CED staff is working with Mr. Christopher Rudsell on a farm lease for the Big Island property for 2017. Mr. Rudsell is new to farming the Big Island property but farms hundreds of acres around the Illinois side of the Quad Cities.

Mr. Rudsell will pay the City lease rate of Eighty Dollars (\$80.00) per acre for the tillable acreage for a total of Six Thousand Four Hundred Dollars (\$6,400.00) annually.

The lease keeps the property in productive agricultural use as the City seeks potential development of the site. The lease will not impact the timing of development that may happen on the site. In addition to farming, Mr. Rudsell will maintain the property including mowing non-farmed areas and keeping debris from the property. The City will retain access rights to the property during the term of the lease.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council approve the terms with Mr. Rudsell, direct CED staff to work with legal counsel to create the lease subject to minor attorney modifications, and authorize execution of the development agreement by the City Manager.

Submitted by: Bret Gardella, Economic Development Manager
Chandler Poole, CED Director

Approved by: Randall Tweet, Interim City Manager