

a-863-Oak Park Heights

BEFORE THE MUNICIPAL COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA

Robert W. Johnson	Chairman
Thomas R. Byrne	Vice-Chairman
Edward L. Henry	Member
Donald L. Cafferty	Ex-Officio
Robert E. Wright	Ex-Officio

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION FOR THE ANNEXATION
OF THE TOWN OF OAK PARK TO THE VILLAGE OF OAK
PARK HEIGHTS

The petition for annexation of the Town of Oak Park to the Village of Oak Park Heights came on for hearing pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 414.03, as amended, before the Municipal Commission on the 20th day of December, 1965, at the Oak Park Elementary School, Stillwater, Minnesota. Robert W. Johnson, Chairman, Thomas R. Byrne, Vice-Chairman, Edward L. Henry, Member, Donald L. Cafferty, Ex-Officio Member, and Robert E. Wright, Ex-Officio Member, together with Irving R. Keldsen, Secretary, were in attendance.

The Village of Oak Park Heights was represented by Lyle J. Eckberg, Esq. and the Board of Trustees of Oak Park Township was represented by Richard C. Hiniker, Esq.

The Commission being fully advised in the premises and having duly considered the testimony and exhibits received into evidence together with all files and records, does hereby make and enter the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

I.

That the petition for annexation under which this hearing was held was signed by a majority of the freeholders of the land to be annexed.

II.

That the Village of Oak Park Heights did submit a resolution approving the petition to annex the Town of Oak Park to the Village of Oak Park Heights and indicated further in said resolution that they would be willing to accept said territory within the limits of the Village.

III.

That the boundaries of the Township of Oak Park are as follows: The Township is bounded on the east by the St. Croix River, on the north by Orleans Street, and the City of Stillwater, on the west by Fourth St. and Stillwater Township and on the south by U.S. Highway 212 and the Village of Oak Park Heights.

IV.

That the quantity of the land to be annexed constitutes approximately 312 acres and that the quantity of land embraced by the Village of Oak Park Heights is approximately 400 acres. According to the 1960 census, the number of residents in the Town of Oak Park was 582 and according to the census attached to the petition, the number of residents was 611 at the date of petitioning. That the population, according to the 1960 census of the Village of Oak Park Heights, was approximately 175.

V.

That the Village of Oak Park Heights, in order to properly expand and form an efficiently organized governmental unit, requires annexation to accommodate population increase and construction.

VI.

That the taxes in the annexed territory are not expected to increase nor will the taxes in the annexing territory as a result of said annexation.

VII.

That the Township cannot under existing federal regulations meet the existing and anticipated needs for governmental services to its residents, in particular water system and adequate sewage disposal; and that the result of an expanded village will have adequate tax base and governmental facilities to provide these services.

VIII.

That the Township form of government does not adequately cope with the problems of urban or suburban growth within the area.

IX.

That the Town of Oak Park has no prior existing indebtedness.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

I.

Pursuant to the petition and the applicable laws of the State of Minnesota, the Municipal Commission has duly acquired jurisdiction of the within proceedings.

II.

That it would be in the best interests of the Village of Oak Park Heights and the Town of Oak Park and the residents therein that the said property be annexed in order to protect the public health, safety, and welfare and to provide necessary governmental services.

III.

That the township form of government is not adequate to cope with the above referenced problems and that the Village of Oak Park Heights can best serve the needs existing and as they can reasonably be anticipated.

IV.

That therefore an Order should be issued by the Minnesota Municipal Commission annexing to the Village of Oak Park Heights the entire Town of Oak Park, Washington County, Minnesota with the exception of the following described property:

All of Blocks Twelve (12), Thirteen (13), and Fourteen (14) of Webster's Third Addition and one-half of the streets abutting thereon, which was annexed to the City of Stillwater by Commission Order of January 26, 1966.

O R D E R

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION FOR THE ANNEXATION OF THE TOWN OF OAK PARK TO THE VILLAGE OF OAK PARK HEIGHTS

IT IS ORDERED: pursuant to M.S.A. 414.03, Subdivision 1, Subdivision 3 and Subdivision 4 that the entire Town of Oak Park with the exception of Blocks 12, 13, and 14 of Webster's Third Addition and one-half of the streets abutting thereon be and the same hereby is annexed to the Village of Oak Park Heights the same as if it had been originally made a part thereof.

Dated this 21st day of March, 1966

MINNESOTA MUNICIPAL COMMISSION
459 Rice Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55103



Irving R. Keldsen
S e c r e t a r y