

City Council Agenda Item Memo

From: Kristin Zimmerman, Parks, Recreation & Forestry Director

Council Meeting: June 23, 2026

Subject: Resolution 26-041: Naming Rights Request – Bob Shelden Field, Home Dugout

Presenter: Josh Bauman, Parks, Recreation & Forestry Assistant Director

Summary and Recommended Action:

Staff recommends approval of the request to designate the home dugout at Bob Shelden Field as the "Jeremy Deutsch Memorial Dugout" in recognition of Jeremy's significant contributions to youth baseball, coaching, mentorship, and community service in Brookings. Staff further recommends the installation of an appropriate commemorative plaque or sign acknowledging his legacy and dedication to the players and families of the Brookings baseball community.

Item Details:

Staff received a request to name the home dugout at Bob Shelden Field in memory of Jeremy James Deutsch. Jeremy was a lifelong Brookings resident, devoted father, coach, mentor, and passionate supporter of youth baseball. He dedicated countless hours to coaching young athletes in the Brookings community and served as head coach for his sons' baseball teams for many years. His commitment to youth development, sportsmanship, and the game of baseball left a lasting impact on generations of local players and families.

Beyond his involvement in youth baseball, Jeremy was known throughout the community for his generosity, kindness, and ability to make others feel welcome and valued. Following his passing in May 2026, community members, friends, former players, and families shared an outpouring of support and recognition for the positive influence he had on Brookings youth and amateur baseball.

Naming a dugout at Bob Shelden Field in Jeremy's memory would provide a lasting tribute to an individual whose dedication to coaching and youth athletics helped strengthen the Brookings baseball community. The recognition aligns with the purpose of commemorative naming by honoring an individual whose service and contributions have had a meaningful and lasting impact on the facility's users and the broader community.

Legal Consideration: None.

Strategic Plan Consideration:

- Safe, Inclusive, Connected Community – The City of Brookings will create an environment for inclusive programs, gathering places, and events where the community can safely live, work and come together to participate in opportunities for learning, recreation and enjoyment.
- Service and Innovation Excellence – The City of Brookings will provide an accessible environment committed to ongoing innovation and outstanding service through listening and engagement.

Financial Consideration:

A plaque will be donated to commemorate the naming of the Home Dugout at Bob Shelden Field.

Supporting Documentation:

Resolution

Naming Request

Naming Rights Policy

Park & Rec Board Minutes