

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

The Community Development Committee of the Willmar City Council met on Thursday, February 11, 2016, in Conference Room No. 1 at the City Office Building.

Present:	Rick Fagerlie	Chair
	Denis Anderson	Member
	Audrey Nelsen	Member
	Tim Johnson	Member

Others present: Bruce Peterson - Director of Planning and Development Services, Paul Rasmussen - MnDOT District 8, Shelby Lindrud - "West Central Tribune"

Item No. 1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Fagerlie at 4:45 p.m.

Item No. 2 Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Item No. 3 Wye Project Update (For Information Only)

Paul Rasmussen, MnDOT District 8 Wye Project Manager, presented concept drawings of the proposed railroad wye project (See Attachments). Two options for Highway 12 were viewed and discussed. Both options require significant changes to County Road 55. The rail route remains the same under both options.

As of now, proposed changes at the south end of the route relative to County roads are not part of the project. It was noted that BNSF has purchased some property. Land acquisition is on hold pending a final route decision for Highway 12.

A public meeting is scheduled for February 25th to review the project options. A meeting location has not been finalized, but will be conveyed to the Council once the location has been identified.

Item No. 4 Sex Offender Housing Update (For Information Only)

The Committee discussed next steps to address the issue of regulating sex offender housing. The City Attorney had offered several options to regulate such housing using zoning restrictions. Following, significant discussion, it was a consensus of the Committee that the City continue to pursue regulation of housing for sex offenders. Staff will work with the City Attorney to put together information and prepare draft documents.

Item No. 5 Proposal to Gift Land to City (Motion)

Staff presented a proposal by Mark and Bonnie Nelson to gift a small piece of land to the City of Willmar. The piece of land is a remnant piece from when the Highway 12 bypass was constructed years ago. The land abuts property already owned by the City of Willmar. Because of the size and location of the parcel in question the City had actually been maintaining it since the City acquired the adjacent property. The parcel measures less than a couple hundred square feet.

Following discussion, a motion was made by Council Member Nelsen, seconded by Council Member Anderson to refer the matter to the Planning Commission for review as required by the Willmar City Charter. The motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m. by Chair Fagerlie.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce D. Peterson, AICP
Director of Planning and Development Services