

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 24, 2022, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

5:45 p.m. Council Chamber. Members present: A. Christianson Sr., N. Johnson, M. Reynolds.

Others present: R. Carlson, A. Christianson Jr., K. Gorsegner, B. Grotzinger, A. Kenyon, D. Parker.

Call to Order:

Chair Christianson Sr. called the meeting to order and, in the absence of objection, advanced consideration of stairs or ramps at the visitor center rail display.

Rail Display:

There was a lengthy discussion of options to make the boxcar, in particular, more accessible to some. It is understood that the boxcar and caboose can never be fully accessible so options are limited. Mr. Parker will seek cost estimates.

Rail Display Storage:

Alderman Christianson explained that with manufacturers looking for space, the City and County need to respect the reason they were granted funds to construct or rehabilitate buildings such as the Enterprise Center and Gates Avenue Plant was to support industries and job creation. That local governments are using space for unproductive storage is not compliant.

He then asked about progress with rail display items taking up space in the Enterprise Center and where else these items can go. Usable tools and materials can be taken to the City Shop. Some items can be discarded. Mr. Carlson will make a list of items that should be retained. Mr. Parker will talk with Camp Flambeau to ascertain whether its crew might visually restore the remaining motorcar this winter. Two trailing cars may be connected to the rail display and the crane set on top of them.

Sledding:

Mr. Carlson assigned the Falge Park (Corbett Lake?) folder on sledding to Alderman Christianson noting that its contents explain why a decision was not made to not pursue any sledding hill projects in 2013. Folks may find places themselves this winter as there is no time left to prepare anything. One such location might be along the embankment on the north side of the Falge Park parking lot.

Housing:

Adm. Christianson reported that, although additional funding has been identified for the project to convert the former elementary school into 40 housing units, more is still needed. He noted that next steps in pursuing a similar sized greenfield housing project along City-owned river frontage on the south end of the City include Certified Survey Map and ? approvals by the City Planning Commission later this week.

Alderman Christianson stated that Rusk County and MCHS may meet yet this week to discuss issues relating to use of so-called "wind down funds" relating to closure of the current hospital, now slated for March, 2023. The results of this discussion could create a situation where the City could become involved.

Opportunity:

Adm. Christianson reported on a possible grant opportunity available through the WEDC's Vibrant Space grant program, which may or may not be a one-time program. Applications will be due next January. Possible 50% assisted projects mentioned by those present include the following:

*A new South Side (former elementary school grounds) playground.

- *A color lighted water fountain in Corbett Lake near the highway.
- *A farmer's market pavilion.

Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned shortly before 7 p.m.