



City of Blaine
Anoka County, Minnesota
Minutes - Final

10801 Town Square Dr.
Blaine MN 55449

City Council Workshop

**While this is a public meeting where interested persons are welcome to attend, it is a work session for Council and staff to discuss issues before them. It is not for the purpose of receiving public input.*

Thursday, February 2, 2012

6:30 PM

Cloverleaf Farm Room A

Meeting Number 12-07

NOTICE OF WORKSHOP MEETING

A quorum was present.

ALSO PRESENT: Clark Arneson, City Manager; Tom Sweeney, City Attorney; Bryan Schafer, Community Development Director; Bob Therres, Public Services Manager; Joe Huss, Finance Director; Jean Keely, City Engineer; Chris Olson, Safety Service Manager/Police Chief; Roark Haver, Communications Technician; Jane Cross, City Clerk; and Recording Secretary Linda Dahlquist.

Present: 7 - Councilmember Clark, Councilmember Kolb, Councilmember Bourke, Councilmember Herbst, Mayor Ryan, Councilmember Hovland, and Councilmember Swanson

2. WS 12-08

LAND USE/CODE ISSUE (STANDING SEAM METAL ROOFS)

Sponsors: Schafer

Attachments: [standing-seam-metal-house.jpg](#)

Planning and Community Development Director Schafer stated the Council adopted a zoning code amendment in June 2011 that allows standing seam metal roofs in the City's large lot residential districts of Residential Estate (RE) and Farm Residential (FR). He stated currently R-1 zoning only allows for shingle style metal roofing. Mr. Schafer stated a code amendment is needed to make a standing seam metal roof as a permitted use or Conditional Use Permit (CUP).

Mayor Ryan stated the product looks good on home styles that have large roof pitches, he asked about seam trouble on flat roofs. Planning and Community Development Director Schafer replied the seams have an interlock, an overlap and then it is fastened down to the roof. He stated the product works well on different angles. The product is good, but it all depends on the workmanship of the installing company.

Councilmember Kolb stated it is a great product and looks nice.

Councilmember Bourke asked if this roof has a longer warranty. Planning and Community Development Director Schafer replied the lifetime of this style roof is expected to be 40-50 years.

Mayor Ryan asked about hail damage. Planning and Community Development Director Schafer stated the roof is heavy gage and the hail would have to be considerable to damage the roof. He added the manufacturer offers multiple colors.

Councilmember Hovland what is the difference between permitted versus CUP. Planning and Community Development Director Schafer replied if the council wants more control in an R-1 area additional language would be needed for permitted use in order to restrict colors. He stated an advantage of a CUP is that it provides notice to neighbors.

Councilmember Swanson stated he supports the product and would prefer using a CUP.

Councilmember Bourke stated he supports the product. He clarified that Blaine allows metal tiles. Planning and Community Development Director Schafer replied Blaine allows metal shingles, tiles, and shakes, but Blaine does not allow standing seam in an R-1 area.

Councilmember Herbst stated he supports the product and CUP. He stated people like the product.

Mayor Ryan asked about the cost of CUP. Planning and Community Development Director Schafer replied around \$400.

Planning and Community Development Director Schafer stated the Planning Commission will present to the Council later this spring.

Discussed

1. [RES 12-028](#)

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT NO. 11-13

Sponsors: Therres

Attachments: [Safe Routes to School Grant Application.pdf](#)
[SRTS - Westwood School Aerial Map.pdf](#)
[Resident Email 020812.msg](#)

Public Services Manager Therres stated the City was awarded grant funds from Mn/DOT for the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Improvement Project. The funding is to be used for sidewalk and crosswalk improvements in District 16 for the Westwood Intermediate and Middle Schools. He stated an open house was held on October 10, 2011, for the residents of the 91st Avenue/Jackson Street neighborhood to discuss the scope of the potential safe routes to school project. Approximately 50 residents attended the open house and nine residents who live on 91st Avenue provided comments on the proposed improvements.

Councilmember Swanson stated he and Councilmember Clark voted against the project. He stated six feet sidewalks would go into the residents' yards.

Councilmember Herbst asked if any accidents have been reported. Public Services Manager Therres replied little if any. Safety Service Manager/Police Chief Olson replied very little.

Councilmember Kolb stated this part of the City does not have access to trails. She stated residents have called her about access for wheel chairs. She stated the City

has not done much in the first district with trails. She stated connectivity and accessibility are important.

Councilmember Clark arrived at 6:44 p.m.

Councilmember Hovland stated he is in favor of the project. He is concerned that a six foot sidewalk may be too large for the neighborhood. He commented the kids make their own routes and cut through the church's property. He commented parents choose to drive their children to school which increases the traffic on this road. He agreed with Councilmember Kolb that the City has not done much in the first district. He stated the neighborhood is older, but the neighborhood will turn around and more children will be using the route.

Councilmember Bourke asked how many homes will be affected. The Council viewed an aerial map.

Mayor Ryan stated St Timothy's is in favor of the sidewalk as long as the City maintains it.

Councilmember Kolb commented a concrete sidewalk is better than asphalt. She questioned the six foot size. Public Services Manager Therres replied a 6 foot sidewalk is a preferred size.

Councilmember Kolb commented elementary school children walk to school more than middle school children.

Public Services Manager Therres stated if landscaping is an issue the sidewalk can be moved off the property line onto the boulevard.

Mayor Ryan commented kids will take the shortest route and cut across parking lots.

Councilmember Swanson commented there are no kids walking to school. Mayor Ryan replied there is no place for them to walk.

Mayor Ryan stated if a consensus is not reached the money will go back to MnDOT.

Councilmember Herbst commented kids will take short cuts through the neighborhood.

Councilmember Kolb stated the sidewalk would be used by the neighborhood, not just kids walking to school.

Mayor Ryan stated if this development went in today, a sidewalk would be required. He commented this sidewalk would be no cost to the residents.

Councilmember Kolb stated the sidewalk is safer than traffic control.

Discussion took place on sidewalk safety criteria.

Councilmember Clark asked to see a copy of the safety criteria before a decision is made.

Councilmember Hovland stated he is in favor of the project and wants to bring it forward for a Council vote. He stated the sidewalk would service the residents to the south and provide access to the existing trails.

Councilmember Bourke asked if there are sidewalks nearby. Public Services Manager Therres stated there is a trail system. He commented the grant money has to be used by July 2013.

Councilmember Herbst stated the City requires sidewalks in new developments. He questioned what will happen to the road with the Pavement Management Program.

Councilmember Hovland asked if the residents will be accessed. Public Services Manager Therres stated no assessments will be made for the sidewalk.

Councilmember Swanson asked for more detail on what would need to be done to the yards.

Councilmember Clark stated the project needs to be brought forward to Council, so the residents of the neighborhood can speak. He stated he would like to see at the Council meeting the selection criteria for the project, an interconnecting trail map and walker counts.

Councilmember Hovland commented he would like to see the counts from the school district on potential walkers.

Councilmember Kolb commented a representative from the school could speak at the Council meeting.

City Manager Arneson stated the item will be brought back to the Council on March 8.

Discussed

ADJOURN

The Workshop adjourned at 7:15 p.m