

Community Development Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
November 9, 2011

The Chairperson and Vice-chairperson were absent and the Committee voted Wayne Stienstra as acting Chairperson.

1.) The meeting of the Community Development Committee was called to order by acting Chairperson Wayne Stienstra at 5:37 p.m.

2.) Roll Call.

Members Present: Jerry Brummel, Mike Kiser, Wayne Stienstra, Kathy Jaarsma Tripp, Robyn Van Berkum, Dennis Vander Beek.

Members Absent: Patsy Cody, Jo Dorenkamp, Mike DeWild, Ginny Moore.

Others Present: Jerry Byers, George Wesselhoft, Tim Sadler, Tracy Gathman.

3.) Sign Ordinance Amendment for Agricultural Industry Signage.

Two Rivers Cooperative submitted a sign permit application for new signage on their elevator structure. Staff, along with the City Attorney and the sign contractor were not able to find a way under current Sign Code to approve the sign permit. The width of the wall at 59 feet under Code only would permit 73.75 square feet of sign area. The lettering area of the TRC logo based on their proposal would be 116.4 square feet. In addition, they would like to retain the Pella wooden shoe. The lettering area for this icon is 61.2 square feet. Total lettering area square footage would be 177.6 feet.

The difficulty in this matter rest in the fact that the Sign Code provisions base allowable square footage for wall signs on the width of the building regardless of structure height.

Staff recommended that a sign ordinance be crafted for agricultural industry use in the M1/M2 zoning districts whereby vertical structures such as elevators, towers, and bins are permitted square footage based on vertical height and not building width. A draft ordinance has been prepared which would use to building height instead of building width of these situations. This ordinance would permit at 176 feet of elevator height up to 220 square feet of signage for Two Rivers Cooperative. The direction from Policy and Planning was to proceed with an ordinance amendment.

The request is to modify the sign ordinance to allow this sign.

Tracy Gathman spoke to the Committee concerning the history of the signage on the elevator. Mr. Gathman continued by asking that the Committee change the sign code to allow for new signage on the elevator to allow a sign of significant size to look correct and be seen on the elevator.

Kathy Jaarsma Tripp asked if this particular request could be acted upon without changing the sign code.

George Wesselhoft, Director of Planning and Zoning, spoke about the code change being only for agricultural industry in M1/M2 zoning districts.

Tim Sadler, sign contractor, stated that the TRC logo itself is within the size requirements and only 25 square feet over size with the wooden shoe logo added.

Ms. Tripp asked if there were any other business that this would impact.

Discussion ensued trying to come up with another business that this would have bearing on.

Ms. Tripp asked about the colors.

Mr. Sadler offered the Committee a color drawing of the sign.

Mr. Gathman told the Committee that the old Farmers Coop Elevator signage would go away. He continued by saying that the signage being removed is actually larger in square feet than what is being added.

Wayne Sieinstra asked what the response from City Council was.

Mr. Sadler said they approved it.

Mr. Gathman stated that Council asked that the ordinance change be brought to the Community Development Committee first. If approved, then it is going to the Planning and Zoning Commission, and then back to City Council for final approval at the December 6 Council meeting.

Jerry Brummel made a motion to recommend approval of the ordinance as submitted.

Mike Kiser second the motion

Upon vote, motion passed 6 to 0.

#### 4.) Approval of Minutes

Approval of the October 12, 2011 Meeting Minutes. The minutes were approved as submitted.

5.) Other business:

No comments were made concerning Other Business.

6.) Adjourn

Acting Chairperson Stienstra adjourned the meeting at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

Jerry Byers  
Building Official