

**City of Moorhead
Committee of the Whole
Meeting Minutes
September 19, 2011 at 5:30 PM
City Hall Council Chambers**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held in the City Hall Council Chambers, on September 19, 2011, at 5:30 PM.

Roll call of the members was made as follows:

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1st Ward Council Member: | Luther Stueland | Present |
| 1st Ward Council Member: | Nancy Otto | Present beginning at 5:40 p.m. |
| 2nd Ward Council Member: | Diane Wray Williams | Present |
| 2nd Ward Council Member: | Mark Altenburg | Present |
| 3rd Ward Council Member: | Dan Hunt | Present |
| 3rd Ward Council Member: | Brenda Elmer | Present beginning at 5:31 p.m. |
| 4th Ward Council Member: | Mark Hintermeyer | Present |
| 4th Ward Council Member: | Greg Lemke | Present |
| Mayor: | Mark Voxland | Present |

Committee of the Whole Meeting

1. [MetroCOG Presentation - Wade Kline, Executive Director](#)
 - A. [Metropolitan Planning Program](#)
 - B. [Metropolitan Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan](#)

Minutes: Wade Kline, Executive Director of Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Council of Governments (FM Metro COG), presented information on the organization and relevant projects and studies. Katie White, Planner with FM Metro COG, presented information on the proposed Metropolitan Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.

Kline and White clarified the following in response to Mayor and Council questions:

- It is anticipated that the Minnesota Department of Transportation, Trunk Highway 10 and Trunk Highway 75 Corridor Study will be completed soon.
- Metro COG is working with SRF Consulting Group to prepare an application for a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary Grant to the U.S. Department of Transportation for the SE Main Ave/20th St/21st St Railroad Grade Separation Project.
- Further updates and mapping for the Red River Greenway Project will be conducted in response to recent property acquisitions adjacent to the river corridor.
- Designated bike routes could impact parking regulations on some City streets.

- There are a wide range of options for cities to use in designing dedicated bike routes.
- Traffic calming strategies are utilized in road design to reduce vehicle speeds and improve safety. Each design is individually assessed by engineering and operations for need and suitability.
- There are plans to extend the Heartland Trail from Detroit Lakes to Moorhead. Funding opportunities are currently being considered.

The Mayor and Council Members stated the following:

- It was noted that there is a need to increase connections between the colleges and downtown Moorhead.
- It was noted that a river crossing at Bluestem Center for the Arts is desired.
- Improved connections from North Moorhead to Moorhead High School are needed.
- Increased pedestrian and bicycle facilities are needed along 15th Avenue N, 10th Avenue N, and 17th Street N.

It was noted that the City Council will consider resolutions at the September 26 Council meeting to approve the Metropolitan Planning Program and Metropolitan Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Metro COG will prepare correspondence in response to concerns expressed by Council members prior to Council consideration.

2. [20th Street Project Discussion](#)

Minutes: Bob Zimmerman, City Engineer, provided a brief overview of the project and clarified the following in response to Mayor and Council questions:

- A level of service analysis of 20th Street indicates that an expansion to four lanes is not needed at this time.
- Traffic counts conducted in the area of 20th Street and 12th Avenue confirm that the 12th Avenue southbound left-turn lane queuing be elongated.
- There are plans to extend the merge lane at 6th Avenue.
- The street reconstruction project may be conducted with or without medians. The City recommends use of medians for pedestrian and vehicular safety, aesthetic improvement, traffic calming potential and overall project present value life cycle cost.
- If desired, the project could eliminate parking along 20th Street.

The Mayor and Council Members stated the following:

- Concern was noted on the ability of the roadway to adequately accommodate both parking and a median. It is preferred that no

parking be allowed along 20th Street.

- It was noted that data confirms medians prevent accidents, injury and death and are therefore desired.
- There was some interest in gaining information on the cost of constructing a 4-lane roadway along 20th Street.

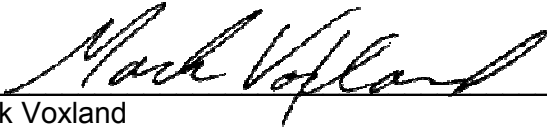
City staff was directed to research parking needs and provide an estimate of a 4-lane roadway along 20th Street.

3. [City Manager Reports](#)

Minutes: No reports were presented to the Mayor and Council.

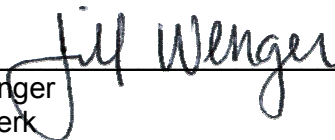
Meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

APPROVED BY:



Mark Voxland
Mayor

ATTEST:



Jill Wenger
City Clerk

The proceedings of this meeting are digitally recorded and are available for public review.

Respectfully submitted by:
Jill Wenger, City Clerk