

**City of Moorhead
Committee of the Whole
Meeting Minutes
March 05, 2012 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 March 05, 2012, at 5:30 PM.

Roll call of the members was made as follows:

1st Ward Council Member:	Luther Stueland	Absent
1st Ward Council Member:	Nancy Otto	Present
2nd Ward Council Member:	Heidi Durand	Present
2nd Ward Council Member:	Mark Altenburg	Present
3rd Ward Council Member:	Mike Hulett	Present
3rd Ward Council Member:	Brenda Elmer	Present
4th Ward Council Member:	Mark Hintermeyer	Present
4th Ward Council Member:	Steve Gehertz	Present
Mayor:	Mark Voxland	Present

Special Committee of the Whole Meeting

1. [Discuss Initial Ward Redistricting Concepts](#)

Minutes: Michael Redlinger, City Manager, stated that City redistricting information is available on the City's website. Citizens can provide comments in writing to the City Clerk. Public comments will be compiled for the Mayor and Council.

Jill Wenger, City Clerk, thanked City of Moorhead GIS Manager Brad Anderson and Clay County GIS Coordinator Mark Sloan for their work in quantifying census information and preparing the redistricting maps. The City has only 42 days to adopt the redistricting plan since the State was delayed in preparing their redistricting plan and the state primary election was moved to an earlier date.

Wards must be as equal in population as practicable and cannot vary in population by more than 10 percent. Three concepts have been presented for consideration. Concept A combines the two college areas; Concept B is most similar to current ward boundaries; and Concept C incorporates a new geographic boundary for Ward 1. The City redistricting plan must be adopted by ordinance following the conduct of a public hearing.

A preliminary redistricting plan, based on Council feedback and direction, will be presented as first reading of an ordinance at the March 12, 2012 City Council meeting. Approval requires a majority of the Council, or five votes. A public hearing will be held on March 19, 2012. Final adoption of the redistricting plan is scheduled for the March 26, 2012 City Council meeting. The deadline to approve the redistricting plan is April 3, 2012.

Wenger clarified the following in response to Mayor and Council questions:

- If redistricting displaces a Council Member, that Council Member is allowed to serve the remainder of their term, but will have to be re-

elected in the new ward.

- The timeline to challenge any 2010 US Census data has expired.
- Future annexations cannot be considered in determining ward boundaries. When Oakport is annexed into the City in 2015, it will have a separate precinct within Ward 1 until the next census.
- After the City approves ward boundaries, the County overlays their districts. The more they divide the wards, the more precincts are needed.
- There have been citizen complaints about the conditions at some polling sites.

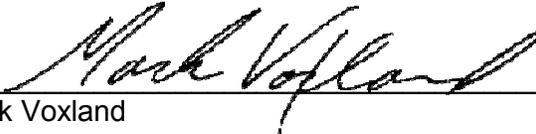
The consensus of the Council was to adopt Concept B and make Ward 1 as small as possible within population requirements. A redistricting proposal will be provided at the March 12, 2012 City Council meeting that includes precinct lines and polling locations.

2. City Manager Reports

Minutes: Redlinger announced that all flood information can be accessed online at www.fmdiversion.com.

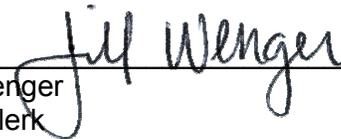
Meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

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:
Becky Jahnke, Executive Secretary