

**Wednesday, July 08, 2015**  
**DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
4:00 PM Washburn Library

Committee Members: Rick Geisen, John Baregi, Peter Bremner, Nathan Engstrom, Christine Kelly, Taylor Pearson.

Excused: Jon Wheeler

Municipal Personnel: Mayor Scott Griffiths; City Administrator Scott J. Kluver; and Administrator Intern Savanna Richter

**Call to Order** – The meeting to order at 4:05PM by Savanna Richter

**Approval of Minutes from the June 18th Proceeding –**  
Motion by Baregi , seconded by Kelly to approve the June 10, 2015 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion of Utility Connection Requirments**

The Committee, Carla Bremner and Rita Sharp (Realtors in Washburn) were present to discuss the housing market in Washburn. The viability of getting water and sewer for vacant parcels was discussed because there is a need for single family housing in the price range of \$140,000-\$150,000 and \$800 rentals. It's most desirable to either find a developer to build homes and perhaps have the city pay to have water and sewer put in, or find parcels that already have water and sewer available. Assessments of potential renovation of current lots that have older houses was discussed but ultimately found not to be desirable.

**Discussion and Action on Marketing of Property South of Omaha Street**

The Committee reviewed the project plan Cedar Corps is purposing for property south of Omaha st. The initially proposal includes a lot of preplanning to see if the project is feasible. There was discussion of a community that went through a similar housing problem and how they handled it; the city purchased land and gave away the first six

properties with the stipulations that the project had to be completed in a year and needed to be valued at \$175,000, this community ultimately paid \$12,000 for Cedar Corp services. The rough timeline of Cedar Corps services would take most of the fall. There was discussion of going through the suggested steps and then writing an RFP for specific community needs or perhaps what the community doesn't need. There was a lengthy discussion on who has the authority to say "yes" to Cedar Corp, some members believed the Common Council could grant the WDA this authority, however no conclusions were made. Cedar Corp will provide a complete proposal for consideration in the near future.

No Motion made.

**Discussion and Action on Request to Sponsor the Habitat for Humanity Building Project**

The Committee reviewed the project, their current budget, and decided it was a worth-while donation.

Motion to donate \$500 to Habitat for Humanity by Baregi, seconded by Bremner Motion carried unanimously.

Abstentions: Engstrom and Kelly

Future Agenda Item Topics

Discussion and Action on whether or not to recommend Cedar Corp for the marketing of Omaha Street property to the City Council and other possible options.

**Adjournment** –Motion by Baregi, seconded by Bremner to adjourn the meeting at 5:43PM. Motion carried unanimously.

**Savanna L Richter**  
**Intern for City Administrator**