

Minutes
City of Walker Downtown **Redevelopment Management Board**
October 16, 2007

1:00 pm

City of Walker Fire Station #2 Community Center
4101 Lake Michigan Drive, SE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hicks at 1:10 pm. Members present: G. Hicks, P. Goodale, M. Neal, A. Hartzler, L. Rios, J Mclsaac, J. Cornell, C. Vander Meulen

Members Absent: D. Felton, J. Veldheer, J. DiLeonardo

VanderMeulen stated that the main purpose of this meeting is to provide information relative to the establishment of a new special assessment district to provide for the maintenance of the streetscape improvements in the Standale area.

Attorney Wyngaarden discussed the history, purpose, and benefits of establishing the Downtown Development Authority in the Standale area. She then explained the purpose of having a streetscape assessment district to provide a means to maintain the DDA's investment that has been made along the roadways (landscaping, lighting, banners, etc.). The current streetscape special assessment district (SAD 188) will be expiring this year. There is a desire to implement a new district to continue to accommodate maintenance of the improvements for the next 15 years. She went on to explain the approval process that needs to be followed to establish a new district. The proposed district will be formally called the Walker-Standale Streetscape Maintenance Special Assessment District No.197. The proposed district would also include properties that currently have no streetscape improvements. If those parcels receive improvements at some point within the 15 year period, they would then be responsible to pay their portion of the assessment at that time.

Department of Public Works Director Koning gave an overview of the maintenance that is provided for the streetscape areas. This includes such items as snowplowing sidewalks, trimming, mowing, fertilizing, planting, irrigation, decorative lighting, banners, tree trimming, and many other items. Some of these services are contracted out and some are provided by the City's DPW Department.

Chairman Hicks reiterated how much the DDA has invested in the district over the years and that Standale is alive and doing well and that he would like to keep it going that way.

Wyngaarden reviewed the dates of the various action needed to re-establish the district.

There was a question as to how the assessments would be allocated. Was it based on front footage, lot area, or a combination of both? As proposed, the assessments would be allocated on an improved front foot formula. If there are existing streetscape improvements in front of a property, a front foot charge would be assessed for all improved frontage.

There was an opportunity for any members in the audience to ask questions. There were no questions.

There was a motion made by McIsaac with support by Neal to approve the Resolution Recommending the Establishment of Walker-Standale Streetscape Maintenance Special Assessment District No.197. Motion carried with a unanimous vote. The City Commission will now take action on the establishment of this district.

Motion by Goodale, with support by Hartzler to close the meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy VanderMeulen,
Secretary