



City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
53202

Meeting Minutes SPCL. JNT. CTTEE. ON THE REDEVELOPMENT OF ABANDONED AND FORECLOSED HOMES

ALD. ROBERT BAUMAN AND STEVE CHERNOF, CO-CHAIRS
Ald. Joe Davis, Sr.; Ald. Willie L. Hines, Jr.; Antonio Perez,
and Maria Prioletta

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Monday, July 26, 2010

9:00 AM

Room 301-A, City Hall

Meeting convened: 9:18 A.M.

Present 4 - Hines Jr., Prioletta, Bauman and Perez

Excused 2 - Davis and Chernof

1. Review and approval of the minutes of the June 22nd meeting.

Moved by Mr. Perez, seconded by Ald. Hines, for approval of the minutes. There were no objections.

2. Communication from the Department of City Development, Community Block Grant Administration, Dept. of Neighborhood Services, Police Department, City Attorney's Office, Assessor's Office and Treasurer's Office related to the city's plan for dispersal of Neighborhood Stabilization Program Funds and plan to remediate vacant and abandoned homes.

Ms. Prioletta noted that there are about 500 properties in the April in-rem filing, so the number of city-owned foreclosures will be up considerably from last year. The Department of City Development plans on marketing these properties through a variety of methods (bus tours, radio and TV ads). The Department has until Sept. 15th to move community block grant funds among housing categories - the Department wants to have flexibility, but also wants transparency. The Committee is fine if the funds are moved without input from this body. Steve Mahan, Community Block Grants Administration, said that the changes will be reported at the first Community and Economic Development Committee meeting in September.

Jim Klajbor, Treasurer's Office, came to the table and said that the Tax Enforcement Specialist position has been classified and should be approved at the Council meeting tomorrow. The work is proceeding, for a total of about \$81,000 for the rest of the year, but he needs to know where to send the bill. Mr. Mahan noted that if it is to be paid with NSP funds, then those funds couldn't be appropriated until the first meeting in September. Mr. Mahan will ask Mr. Nicolini, Budget Office, to provide the Treasurer's Office with a letter on how the bills will be paid. Mr. Mahan and Mr.

Klajbor will have a meeting on this issue this afternoon to finalize the administrative details. Another in-rem file will be sent in on August 11th, with approximately 85 properties.

Ald. Michael Murphy said that he had held a meeting on Friday with the three largest banks that own foreclosed properties in the city. The Dept. of Neighborhood Services will send out a letter to owners of vacant properties notifying them that they need to take care of any flood damage at their properties. The city of Chicago has gotten money from some of the banks to hire ex-offenders to shovel snow and mow grass. He anticipates having another meeting in early September.

Mr. Dahlberg, Dept. of Neighborhood Services, will be doing the mass mailing directed at owners of vacant properties, as well as getting inspection warrants for vacant properties in flood areas. The Dept. will also be doing media releases that the property owners, not tenants, are responsible for flood damage clean-up.

Ms. Prioletta said that the Dept. has been pressured to provide a \$120,000 subsidy for construction of \$180,000 rental units. The Committee was supportive of the Department not providing this subsidy.

With the land bank properties, a number of them are listed for sale with accepted offers, are actively being worked on, or are scheduled for demolition. The city is not currently holding any properties for the long-term.

The Dept. of Neighborhood Services met with the Police Dept. relating to the vacant building checks. The program will begin Aug. 1 and end December. The area patrolled on the north side is from Holton to 55th St., Lisbon to Capitol and joint checks will be done with the Dept. of Neighborhood Services and the Police Dept. On the south side, the area is from National to Becher, 6th St. to Layton. The Police will also be talking with residents about crime and vacant buildings.

3. Set next meeting date and agenda.

Sept. 7th at 9 a.m.

*Meeting adjourned: 9:56 A.M.
Linda M. Elmer
Staff Assistant*