

**WORTHINGTON CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING, JULY 20, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. in City Hall Council Chambers by Mayor Alan E. Oberloh with the following Aldermen present: Mike Kuhle, Scott Nelson, Mike Woll. Honorary Council Member: Robert Ramirez. Aldermen absent: Lyle Ten Haken, Ron Wood (excused).

MN DOT HIGHWAY 59/60 RELOCATION HOUSING AVAILABILITY UPDATE

Jim Swanson and Peter Harff, along with several other representatives from MN DOT, were present at the meeting to update Council on where they were with right-of-way acquisitions for the Highway 60 reconstruction project. Peter Harff gave an update on the project itself, noting it was on schedule, with the first letting for Phase I of the project slated for March 2010. Each of the three phases will be a two year project that will have an overlap with the following phase. Acquisitions for the right-of-way are proceeding, with some signatures already obtained. The target date to complete the acquisitions is December 2011, which is the scheduled letting date for Phase III of the project.

Dan Wilson, relocation consultant with Wilson Development, discussed some of the issues with the acquisition and relocation of East Acres mobile home park and its tenants. Compliance needs to be maintained with the Uniform Relocation Act and the Manufactured Home Court Closure Law. They have met with everyone in the park, which is about a 50/50 split of renters and owners. Plans are to schedule a public hearing in September as required by the Closure law.

A study recently completed by MN DOT shows replacement housing in Worthington is in incredibly short supply. Bob Brown, who is with MN DOT's Right-of-Way Office, noted the relocation issue has the potential to delay the project. Mike Moran, Relocation Supervisor from MN DOT, talked about relocation benefits for renters and owners, adding there would likely be upgrade costs added because many of the manufactured homes in the park do not meet the "safe and sanitary" requirements. Discussion was held on several proposed housing projects in Worthington.

Mr. Swanson thanked Council for their time and expressed MN DOT's intent to continue to work with City Staff on this project. Mayor Oberloh thanked Mr. Swanson and the others for their attendance.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion was made by Alderman Woll, seconded by Alderman Kuhle and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:31 a.m.

Janice Oberloh
City Clerk