

City of Stanwood
Regular Meeting of the Community Development Committee
November 6, 2025 | 5:00 PM

Minutes

1. Call to Order

Steve Shepro called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

2. Roll Call

3. Unfinished Business

4. New Business

a. Municipal Code Update: Nonconforming Uses, Structures and Land

The Committee is supportive of the proposed amendments and recommends holding one reading in December if the Planning Commission forwards a recommendation following their November public hearing. Consider removing the lot merger section, as it primarily affects the west end residential area and could be viewed as having a negative impact on those properties.

b. Permitted Use Matrix Code Amendment

The Committee agreed with the proposed approach to update the permitted use matrix portion of the municipal code. Members will review the initial draft and provide feedback to staff. A more detailed analysis will begin in January.

c. AI Contract for Plan and Building Permit Review

The Committee strongly supports the use of AI as a tool to enhance accuracy, shorten review times, and potentially reduce permit costs. AI should be used as a staff tool, not replace them or make decisions. There is also interest in exploring broader applications of the AI software to assist other City departments, including Utilities and Finance.

d. 2026 Event Schedule and City Beautification Project List

The Committee supports the events listed on the 2026 calendar and will brainstorm additional ideas for expanding community events over the next 2–5 years. Initial ideas included hosting a Founders Day or 4th of July event. Add “Troll Stroll” to the calendar (May 17). With the upcoming U.S. 250th anniversary, the Committee recommends using some of the City Beautification funds for semi-permanent street decorations, lights, and flags.

e. Art: Troll Installation Request

The Committee is strongly supportive of this effort and suggests City Hall Park, Heritage Park, or Church Creek Park as potential installation sites.

5. Adjourn

City of Stanwood

Sid Roberts, Mayor

Attest:

Lisa Sokolik, City Clerk