

ECDC: Economic & Community Development Committee

Tuesday October 4, 2016 5:00 PM

Committee Members Present: Chairman Don Griffin, Pat Donahue, Merlin Hageman, Terry Schuster, and John VonTish.

Absent: Andrew Dettman, Erin Folk, Tom Mahoney, and Aaron Sitze.

Also, present: Mayor, Ken Williams, Economic Development, Samantha Anderson, and City Clerk, Charlene Ruthe.

Chairman Don Griffin called the meeting to order.

Terry introduced Samantha Anderson, who was hired for the part-time Economic Development position. She will be working up to twelve hours a week at sixteen dollars an hour. She will be helping to retain businesses, see what resources we have available, and will be putting together marketing materials. She gave a brief description of her background. The committee welcomed her and look forward to working together on different projects.

Minutes: Approved minutes from September 6, 2016. Motion carried. No Nays.

Budget: Terry handed out a report on income and expenses for Economic Development.

Spread sheet progress:

KMK: A folder for recruitment was handed out for review. November 11th is the target date to have ready. Will be putting commercial properties that are available on the website.

Settler' Ridge Subdivision: Signs are up; however, no sign on Rt 64. Mayor has talked to bank about it and hopefully they will be putting one up. The City Council at next week's meeting will have an agenda item to accept the subdivision. All utilities have been completed.

Facade Designs: Mayor handed out booklets that were put together by Lingle Design Group for downtown facade designs. He would like everyone to look over. Would like to have poster boards made and available at Candlelight Walk. It would be the kick off of the vision of downtown building facades.

Website:

The Police Department section has been updated. Mayor has been working with a vendor to see about making utility/fine payments on the city website. City Clerk

Charlene Ruthe, said that citizens are currently making payments through bill pay on their banks web site.

TIF District: The City has received its first TIF District application from Ryan Hopper. He would like to purchase the old Theater building that is currently owner by Bob Newlon. They would like to make the candy store at 108 W Washington the lobby for the theater location and put in three movie theaters in the building currently owned by Mr. Newlon. Ryan will be working with Bob to try and purchase the building. The application will be sent to the consultants hired by the City

Economic Development Position: Still looking into possibly hiring someone from the Peace Corp., Northern Illinois University will be having intern's after January 2018. Will need to submit an application so it's on file.

Municode: Nothing new at this time on the Municode updates.

Don announced that the Ogle County Board did pass an Enterprise zone. He would like to have Greg Sparrow from Ogle County come and talk to the committee regarding this hopefully at the next meeting.

Oregon Together had volunteers that helped with AOP weekend, put up an Arch in the alley way between Edward Jones Bldg. and Charlie's Restaurant, and will be painting the lids of the garbage cans downtown. They and the Chamber of Commerce are planning a festival for Spring of 2017. A lot of exciting things are happening, which is getting the younger people more involved.

New members are still need for this committee so if you have anyone in mind that would like to be involved let Don know.

Terry announced that Blackhawk Water Ways has grants available for small businesses for brochures, website, or rack cards.

Meeting adjourned. Motion carried. No Nays.

Adjourned at 6:00 PM

Submitted by City Clerk Charlene Ruthe