

*ECDC: Economic & Community Development Committee*

Tuesday December 5, 2017 5:00 PM

**Committee Members Present:** Chairman Don Griffin, Merlin Hageman, Terry Schuster, Tom Mahoney, Rebecca Hazzard.

**Absent:** Erin Folk, Pat Donahue, Ryan Hopper, and John VonTish.

**Also, present:** Mayor-Ken Williams and City Clerk- Charlene Ruthe.

Chairman Don Griffin called the meeting to order.

**Minutes:** Approved the November 7, 2017 minutes.

Motion carried. No Nays.

**Budget:** Franchise fees we receive quarterly from Comcast totally about \$33,000.00. Terry will be considering possibly new revenue source.

**County Enterprise Zone:** Roger Hopkins, of Hopkins Solutions, was present he handed out a map of the proposed Enterprise Zone, total acreage is about 89 acres. Next step will be a written proposal and then a final vote from the City Council.

**Ogle County Economic Development**

Five communities have commented to joining. Next meeting will be December 19<sup>th</sup> 3:00 pm.

**TIF District:** Merlin Hagemann has filled out an application for the building he purchased at 305 W Washington Street. Also talked out tax rebates of 50% to 75%. Consultants will need to put an Ordinance or Resolution together showing the standards required to apply for the tax rebate.

**Riverfront Zone:** Nothing new to report.

**Website:** Nothing new to report.

**Marketing Plan Update:** Roger Hopkins said, he could help with marketing. He suggested that the business retention group meet with the major employers (Blout, Etnyre's FN Smith & Unman) to see about over night stays. Possibly a hotel study.

**Economic Development Position:** Nothing to report.

**Intern:** Farryn Hawkins has been the Intern that was chosen. Terry will be bringing her around on Friday to meet everyone and give her a tour of the Community. A list was handed out of the project she will be working on. She will be starting in January.

**Mayor spread sheet:**

Business recruitment LOIS-Terry and Intern to work on

Business recruitment-Hopkins Solutions

Downtown design-Mayor will provide design guidelines to owners

TIF Agreements-Ken & TIF Consultants

Recruit new members

Enterprise Zone-Mayor, Terry, and Don

Acquire drive-in bank property; at 404 W Washington Street -Mayor & Attorney Paul

Streetscape W Washington Street-Mayor, Mike Bowers, City Engineer

When updating Municode will consider discussing temporary signs in commercial districts.

Mayor has been trying to acquire the drive-in property at 404 W Washington Street. The past taxes owed on property are about \$6,000.00. He is going to be contacting the local banks to see if they would be willing to pledge \$7,950.00 toward the property. He would like to see a welcome center with restrooms at the location and could also be used for future Farmer's Markets. The State Fire Marshall was also contacted about the tanks in the ground since it was a gas station years ago. If left as is and the ground is not disturbed should be fine. Mayor will be working with City Attorney on a contact to purchase.

**Oregon Together:** Working on projects for next year.

Meeting adjourned at 5:58 PM

Submitted by City Clerk Charlene Ruthe