

ECDC: Economic & Community Development Committee

Tuesday February 6, 2018 5:00 PM

Committee Members Present: Chairman Don Griffin, Erin Folk, Merlin Hageman, Terry Schuster, Tom Mahoney, and Ryan Hopper.

Absent: Pat Donahue, Rebecca Hazzard, and John VonTish.

Also, present: Mayor-Ken Williams, Intern -Farrahn Hawkins, Roger Hopkins-Hopkins Solutions, and City Clerk- Charlene Ruthe.

Chairman Don Griffin called the meeting to order.

Intern: Farrahn has been working on recruitment, visiting businesses, research, working on a six-week business seminar she would like the businesses owner to attend, and working with the Chamber of Commerce on a new brochure.

Minutes: Approved the January 2, 2018 minutes.
Motion carried. No Nays.

Budget: Nothing new to report.

County Enterprise Zone: Roger Hopkins, of Hopkins Solutions, was present he said next step will be a written proposal and then a final vote from the City Council. Mayor Williams will be working on the Resolution for Council approval and get copies to Erin Folk, so she can present to the Park District Board this month.

Ogle County Economic Development
Next meeting is February 20th at 3:00 pm.

TIF District: Nothing new to report.

Riverfront Zone: Nothing new to report.

Website: Terry & Farrahn will be meeting with Steve Varble to do some updates on the cities website.

Marketing Plan Update: Roger Hopkins handed out a spreadsheet to keep track of the businesses we have, what business are within fifteen miles, and what we want to see in the area. Farrahn will be working on this project.

Mayor spread sheet:

Business recruitment LOIS-Terry and Farrahn have a training session scheduled for this.

Business recruitment-Hopkins Solutions

Downtown design-When someone in the Commercial District applies for a sign permit.

They will be given a two-page document of suggested colors to be used.

TIF Agreements-Ken & TIF Consultants

Recruit new members

Enterprise Zone-Mayor, Terry, and Don

Streetscape W Washington Street-Mayor, Mike Bowers, City Engineer (This was submitted approval should be in March of this year.)

The City Council approved purchasing the Old Harvard Drive -In Building at 418 W Washington Street. Still waiting to close on property need closing documents from owner, who resides in California.

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

Oregon Together: Having a reorganizational meeting tomorrow. Working on Chocolate Walk and will be having a movie night Feb 17th at the Coliseum.

Terry has been working on putting a community calendar together.

Mayor Ken Williams is in the first stage of trying to get an Immediate Care Faculty to come to Oregon. Right now, citizens must go to Dixon or Rockford.

Two new business have opened in the downtown, Hazel's and Cork and Tap.

Meeting adjourned at 5:47 PM

Submitted by City Clerk Charlene Ruthe