*ECDC: Economic& Community Development Committee*

Tuesday November 6, 2018 5:00 PM

**Committee Members Present:** Chairman Don Griffin, Tom Mahoney, Terry Schuster, and John VonTish

**Absent:** Pat Donahue, Erin Folk, and Rebecca Hazzard.

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

Chairman Don Griffin called the meeting to order. A quorum is not present so will start with Budget Report.

**Budget:** TIF Development Dist. Expenses about $44,000.00 DI-restroom remodel only project so far. Public/Private Partnership with Central Bank and Harvard Bank helped in the remodel too.

Will need to decide on a plan of action, where to use funds: for Lowden Park walkway along River Road and/or improvements to downtown that are visual. Will need to come up with a list of other projects and then prioritize.

In this year had Real Est Taxes to pay on the property, then will be exempt for future taxes.

(Tom Mahoney arrived 5:07 pm)

**Minutes:** October 2, 2018 minutes were approved. Motion carried. No Nays.

**Mayor spread sheet:** LOIS- It’s an ongoing project.

Business recruitment-Mayor and Terry will be looking for the proposal prepared by Roger Hopkins & Chris Manheim.

Street Scape downtown got grant approval for the engineering costs. Now engineers are working on a grant to complete the project.

Have talked to Robin Etnyre, of Etnyre Co. and hopefully she will become a new member.

Debbie Dickson, Executive Director, for Chamber Office is leaving effective December 31st so looking for a new Director. Possibly looking into a partnership with City for a full time Director. Taking applications until November 15th. John VonTish will be a part of the interview team.

**County Enterprise Zone:** City Council had public hearing and approved Enterprise Zone Ordinance. The other communities in the Enterprise Zone has approved ours, now just waiting to be approved at state level. Have two businesses in the Enterprise Zone ready to purchase materials and hope that being in the zone will give them benefits.

The Farmers Market will be changed next year to Saturday mornings rather than Friday nights. Attendance was down this year so hoping that changing the day will bring more people.

**Ogle County Economic Development**

Roger Hopkins announced that the County is wanting to see more private/public funds to promote the Committee. Will possibly look at having quarterly meeting not monthly. The County will vote on their budget in December so, will see if they set aside funds for the Ec Dev Committee. We need to look at the entire county not just individual communities and find what the needs are: retail, ag, or industrial.

**TIF District:** Mayor received a letter from TIF legal advisor that Council members and anyone involved in TIF discussion need to disclose in writing, if they own property in the TIF District. Then they have two options.

One: have the property they own taken out of the TIF District or

two: resign from Council and/or Commission.

The Mayor, Terry Schuster, Merlin Hagemann, and Ryan Hopper all have properties in the TIF District. Mayor and Terry will have their properties taken out of the TIF and Merlin and Ryan will resign from Committee. The question was asked if they could ever be put back in the TIF once they are taken out. Yes, however would cost fifteen thousand to be put back in. Probably not beneficial to do.

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

**Website:** Nothing new to report

**Marketing Plan Update:**  Nothing new to report

I**ntern**: This is her official last meeting. Farrah has been working on a volunteer survey, updating LOIS, a Mission Statement for the City, and an Oregon app for visitors.

**Oregon Together:**  Working with County to move Iron Mike inside the sidewalk and away from the Street.

Moved Phelps Kitchen to the Coliseum lawn. The City gave $6,000.00 toward the moving of the building. Hope to one day have it open as a museum.

Ogle County Judicial Annex building-they have started moving the utilities. The entire project will take about two years to complete.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45PM

Submitted by City Clerk Charlene Ruthe