

ECDC: Economic & Community Development Committee

Tuesday October 5th, 2021, 5:00 PM

Committee Members Present: Don Griffin.

Present via Zoom: Erin Folk, Phil Lehmann, and Tom Mahoney.

Also, present: Darin DeHaan, Cheryl Hilton, Chris Manheim, and Mayor-Ken Williams.

Absent: Rebecca Hazzard, Rick McCanse, Terry Schuster, and Liz Vos.

Don Griffin called the meeting to order and called roll at 5:00 pm.

Phil Lehmann moved to approve minutes from September 7th, 2021, Seconded by Tom Mahoney.

Motion carried. No nays.

ARPA Funds Update: The Oregon Planning Commission will be holding a public meeting at the Coliseum to discuss potential expenditure ideas for the funds.

Consulting Services-Hopkins/Manheim: A grant application was completed to help offset the costs to complete ADA improvements at the Coliseum. The outcome of the application should be known by December.

Broadband Progress: The County has applied for a grant to help get high speed internet service to locations that do not currently have high speed internet service.

River Front & Bike Paths: The riverfront zone has specific development requirements such as how buildings are built and how they look. Two requests have been submitted to go before the Planning Commission. If the buildings footprint is not altered, they would be fathered in. Both requests are asking to make changes to the parking lots which would trigger other actions. A twenty-year time limit for any improvement within the riverfront zone would be required and a renewal to the request submitted after the twenty-year limit.

TIF plan/Updates on TIF application, Façade Grants: Merlin Hageman has expressed interest in submitting a TIF application as well as an application for the enterprise zone incentive program. Trestle Holdings LLC will be presenting a plan of plat to the planning commission at an upcoming meeting regarding redevelopment located on South Second Street. Resources for potential developers interested in the old theatre is also being worked on.

Chamber News/Oregon Together/Community Events: Autumn on Parade was very successful this year.

Other Business: Legislation that was passed by the Illinois Legislature regarding Exelon Generating System is good for a period of five years. Additional funding is possible after the five-year period. Darin DeHaan has expressed interest in the county economic development committee on behalf of the city. Chris Manheim is working on an update for collaborations and successes for the ECDC group. The new ECDC website will be launching soon. Tom Mahoney said the school is seeing a shortage of bus drivers. Erin Folk said there was a complete remodel of the pool and locker room area at Nash. Phil Lehmann said the housing market is super busy. Darin DeHaan said the railcar at the Depot Museum could be in place by December 15th. A local group of volunteers will be laying the track for the railcar. Mayor Ken Williams said a new Hydro Bar business has moved into the downtown. He also stated Northside BarbaQ has acquired the old Hunt Club location and will be running it as a bar. The old location will remain a restaurant.

Meeting adjourned at 5:24 PM

Submitted by City Clerk Cheryl Hilton