

**ECDC: Economic & Community Development Committee**

**Tuesday January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 5:00 PM**

**Committee Members Present:** Don Griffin and Rick McCanse.

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

**Present via Zoom:** Phil Lehmann, Terry Schuster, and Liz Vos.

**Absent:** Erin Folk, Rebecca Hazzard, and Tom Mahoney.

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

Rick McCanse moved to approve minutes from December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Seconded by Phil Lehmann.

Motion carried. No nays.

**ECDC Budget Report:** Commissioner Terry Schuster said the TIF fund had a beginning balance of \$155,000.00. Revenue for the fund of \$211,000.00 and expenses of around \$60,000.00. An approximate balance of \$290,000.00 in the fund at the end of the fiscal year. A potential increase of about 7% for next year. The ECDC fund had a starting balance of \$32,000.00. Anticipated revenue of \$77,000.00 and expenses of \$88,000.00. Net balance at the end of the year of about \$10,000.00. One of the biggest expenses for the fund is for downtown beautification. There was a one-time expense that put the fund over budget but will not be reoccurring.

**Oregon Enterprise Zone:** Housing study should be completed in the next 30 to 45 days.

**Consulting Services-Hopkins/Manheim:** Chris provided a report to the committee. Blackhawk Regional Council manages the entire regions Comprehensive Economic Development Plan and has set up a meeting with Dan Payette. He is continuing to work on IEPA reports for the Dayton Superior building and they hope to conduct a study next March. Chris has also signed a contract with the county for the economic development program. There was also a potential buyer for the old movie theater, but the buyer opted out. Other cities have worked with foundations, Chris has set up a meeting to discuss other options. A study done by Willett Hofmann shows the property to be re-habitable.

**TIF Plan/ Updates on TIF Application/Façade Grants:** Merlin's TIF application was approved at the Planning Commission level and will go to the City Council on Tuesday.

**Chamber News/Report/Oregon Together Report/Community Events:** The Chamber has started a new program called the Traitor Challenge. The 21-day program was created to encourage people to focus on their health. Liz is also working to secure funding for the Emerging Leaders Program.

**ECDC Events: Discussion-Oregon Together @ Oregon Music Garage for the February 1<sup>st</sup>, meeting:** The economic development group has been invited to the Oregon Music Garage for a presentation about Oregon Together by the owner John Lindhorst. He would like to do a short presentation on what the Oregon Together group is working on.

**Other Business:** The committee discussed the lack of lodging within the city. There is a possibility to use property in the riverfront zone to build a hotel. A feasibility study will need to be done. CMAAA had a meeting with a potential Director for the museum. The 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Economic Development Conference is taking place in February. Mayor Williams encouraged everyone to attend, and online attendance is an option.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 PM

Submitted by City Clerk Cheryl Hilton