

ECDC: Economic & Community Development Committee

Tuesday April 5th, 2022, 5:00 PM

Committee Members Present: Rebecca Hazzard.

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

Present via Zoom: Erin Folk, Don Griffin, Phil Lehmann, Tom Mahoney, Terry Schuster, and Liz Vos.

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

Tom Mahoney moved to approve minutes from March 1st, 2022, Seconded by Phil Lehmann.

Motion carried. No nays.

Tom Mahoney moved to approve a Commercial Lease Subsidy Grant for Mutts and Cuts, Seconded by Erin Folk.

Discussion: A small ad-hoc committee reviewed an application submitted by Jasman Martin who would like to open a dog grooming business at 800 S. 4th Street. The city obligation would be about \$400.00 towards the lease of the building per month.

Motion carried. No nays.

Tom Mahoney moved to approve a Commercial Lease Subsidy Grant for the Hunt Club, Seconded by Erin Folk.

Discussion: The ad-hoc committee was unable to come to a consensus on the Hunt Club's application. Due to the owner having several successful businesses it was discussed if there was a need to provide grant funds for the lease. The Hunt Club would be subsidized with gaming revenue and would be well supported within the community. The ECDC committee agreed the business would draw traffic and potentially more development to the riverfront zone. He has made a huge investment in economic development and the property located on South 1st Street.

Tom Mahoney moved to approve a Commercial Lease Subsidy Grant for one quarter of the lease amount per month, Seconded by Erin Folk.

Motion carried. No nays.

Golden Shovel Project: Golden Shovel provides marketing strategy services to communities. The company would put together an economic development package for the city. As the city starts to look forward to future economic development projects this is a group that will be able to help identify community goals. Boone County currently uses this company.

Consulting Services-Hopkins/Manheim -Update: Chris Manheim is working on re-use options for the old movie theater. There is a new project manager for the IEPA study at the Dayton Superior site. The study is now planned for April. Gruen & Gruen Associates were chosen to conduct the hotel feasibility study and will begin at the end of April. A well-built list of key contacts such as Etnyre, ComEd, Woods, wedding venues and event planners needs to be created to address needs for each company.

Terry Schuster moved to approve a façade grant for Patchwork Inn, Seconded by Tom Mahoney.

Discussion: They are looking to replace and repair windows.

Motion carried. No nays.

ECDC Budget: Part of the revenue for the economic development fund is .365% of state sales tax funds from internet sales. Budgeted revenue for the economic development fund for this fiscal year was \$80,000.00 and budgeted expenses were \$83,000.00. The economic development fund will have a surplus of about \$26,000.00 at year end with an approximate beginning balance for next fiscal year of about \$58,000.00.

Reports: Mayor Ken Williams will be presenting at the Oregon Rotary Club meeting. His presentation will include economic development discussion on multiple city projects such as beautification, streetscape, IEPA grant for the old Dayton Superior site, Trestle Ridge development, the new railcar at the Depot Museum, the addition of parking on South 1st Street , a hotel feasibility study, riverfront zone, and façade grants to businesses outside of the downtown.

Liz Vos said the Emerging Leaders Program is set to begin April 18th. There are currently sixteen people signed up to participate. On May 16th, City and County officials will be presenting to the emerging leaders group.

Mayor Ken Williams stated that with warmer weather the Oregon Together beautification group will become more active in the community.

Eleven Signs a City Will Succeed by James Fallows: The committee used the article written by James Fallows as conversation starters to start discussion on the future of Oregon. The discussion included support for local authorities, how to engage new leaders, public-private partnerships, creating a list of the city's angel investors, creating a history and art rich city, innovative school district, and inclusion and value of local youth.

Meeting adjourned at 5:59 PM

Submitted by City Clerk Cheryl Hilton