

***ECDC: Economic & Community Development Committee***

**Tuesday March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 5:00 PM**

**Committee Members Present:** Mike Glenn, Don Griffin, and Terry Schuster.

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

**Present via Zoom:** Mike Delaney, Erin Folk, Phil Lehmann, Tom Mahoney, and Randee Mennenga.

**Absent:** Rebecca Hazzard.

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

No public comment.

Tom Mahoney moved to approve February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Minutes, Seconded by Phil Lehmann.

Motion carried. No nays.

Tom Mahoney moved to approve a Façade Grant submitted by Mobel Furnishings, LLC, Seconded by Terry Schuster.

**Discussion:** Mayor Ken Williams stated this is for the Façade Grant only. This will go to City Council on Tuesday if the Economic Development Committee approves.

Motion carried. No nays.

**Consulting Services-County ECDC-Manheim:** Chris Manheim said they met with OSF on the 7<sup>th</sup> of February regarding an urgent care facility. He stated that Mt. Morris has a recently updated location available for an urgent care facility. He also said a follow up survey has been sent out to residents to try to get more participation for the Broadband for All project. It is important to collect this information because this data is very important to State and Federal grants. The survey is available on the city website as well.

**Update on Comprehensive Plan:** Mayor Ken Williams said there have been 392 responses to the Comprehensive Plan survey. Post cards have been mailed out to residents. He asked everyone to take the time to complete the survey if they have not already done so. The survey is available on the city website. He also said the Sarah Phelps Plaza project was approved by the City Council and bids for the project will be available at the next Council meeting. The project was featured on a local TV station and there have been great comments about the project on Facebook.

**Chamber News/Oregon Together Report/Schools/Community Events:** Randee Mennenga said the Chamber has had a lot of support from local businesses for the upcoming St. Patrick's Day Pub Crawl. She is continuing to update the Chamber website. She also met with Blackhawk Waterways to finalize the Chocolate Trail brochure.

Tom Mahoney said they have just started 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter at the school district. The school has plans to build a new bus barn and storage shed this summer. He also said Kim Radostits was named

one of five finalists for Teacher of the Year. Terry Schuster asked about the sustainable greenhouse project. Tom Mahoney stated he is unsure if the project has been completed, they have funded the project.

Erin Folk said the Oregon Park District is preparing for summer events. They just finished the Mother/Son and Daddy/Daughter dances. She thanked Merlin Hagemann and his team at River's Edge Experience. She also stated the easter egg hunt will be held this year on April 6<sup>th</sup>.

Mike Glenn said they have one gallery completed at CMAAA. They are using this gallery as a model, there are samples of artwork there to see. They also had a donation of art books and have received some artwork from Harry Nurmet. He thanked the City for providing staff to help move some heavy things from the stage.

Don Griffin asked about Dollar General. Mayor Ken Williams stated the developer is working on the cost analysis to present to Dollar General. More information will be available after that is completed.

**Any other business or discussion:** Phil Lehmann said there is still a housing shortage in every community. The group also discussed affordable housing developments such as apartments and condominiums. Mike Delaney mentioned the Missing Middle project. They are looking for speakers to speak at a four-to-six-hour workshop. Discussion would include ways to address the middle-class housing shortage.

Meeting adjourned at 5:28 PM.

Submitted by City Clerk Cheryl Hilton