

ECDC: Economic & Community Development Committee

Tuesday December 5th, 2023, 5:00 PM

Committee Members Present: Mike Glenn, Phil Lehmann, Terry Schuster, and John VonTish.

Present via Zoom: Don Griffin and Randy Mennenga.

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

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

Don Griffin called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

Terry Schuster called roll call. A quorum was present.

No public comment.

John VonTish moved to approve the November 7th, 2023 Minutes, Seconded by Terry Schuster.

Motion carried. No nays.

Business Development Update: Mayor Ken Williams stated Mobel Furnishings and Beam Beauty Bar both have been approved for fifty thousand dollars in TIF funds to rehabilitate their locations. Mobel Furnishings is now open, and Beam Beauty Bar is continuing to rehabilitate their building at 125 S 4th Street. There is also a retail location on Pines Road called the Collective. There are three shops there. A wedding reception space is also located in the building.

TIF and Enterprise Zone Updates: Mayor Ken Williams said there is one pending TIF project at the Washington Corner building. The city is currently checking to see if the project qualifies for TIF incentives. The project would create an archway to connect and expand a business located there now.

Chamber News/Oregon Together Report/Schools/Community Events:

Mike Glenn stated CMAAA has had a remarkably busy November. They have held multiple events including an artist reception and book fair. In December they plan to hold the Eagles Nest luncheon and a dinner for Serenity. They are presenting a show in the spring. They also continue to work on the theater area and recruitment of new sponsors.

Randee Mennenga with the Oregon Chamber said Candlelight Walk had great attendance. She said the holiday window decorating contest was a huge hit and was funded by the City ARPA grant. They had almost two hundred people vote on the windows. 1st place went to No Stone Unturned, 2nd place to Rustic Ridge Axe, and 3rd place to W@SH salon. Mayor Ken Williams said he would like the city to continue to budget for the Window Decorating contest in the future.

Mike Delaney said the extension office is currently creating a real-world simulation for Sophomores.'

Veterans Banners: Mayor Ken Williams said a veteran's group has asked to put banners up in the downtown area to honor veterans. The banners would include a photo, name, and dates of service of the veteran. The families of the veteran would be responsible for the cost of the banner. They could be put up and taken down for certain holidays such as Memorial Day, the 4th of July, and Veterans Day.

Comprehensive Plan – Land Use: Chris Manheim said the 2023 Comprehensive Plan is coming to fruition. This will be the roadmap for the city's current and future land use. Mayor Ken Williams said

everyone will be invited to attend a presentation from NIU to discuss the Comprehensive Plan. City Manager Darin DeHaan said fifty-three comments have been sent to NIU to review.

Update of County ECDC: City Manager Darin DeHaan said interviews have been held for the Executive Director position. Hiring the right director will help with a lot of the issues that the city is facing such as housing development and community growth.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM.

Submitted by City Clerk Cheryl Hilton