

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Draft Meeting Notes

Thursday, April 9, 2020

6:30 p.m. – WebEx*

Members Present: Rachael Vidin, Shannen Knight, Drew Hanson, Julia Williams, and Mayor Russ Axelrod

Members Absent: Russel Williams and Shannon Ilas

Staff Liaison: Jennifer Arnold, Associate Planner

1. Introductions/Review of Agenda

Rachael Vidin called the meeting called to order at 6:36 p.m.

2. Election of Chair

Members tabled the election of officers to the next meeting. Members requested that a description of the chair and vice chair responsibilities be provided to the members.

3. Public Comment for Non-Agenda Items

None

4. CPP Grant update

Because of the COVID-19 public health emergency, Clackamas County paused the grant process. No applications will be reviewed until they are back in the office.

5. Update: Local Economic Activities Update

a. New construction of Willamette Falls Drive- Arnold reported that the project is moving forward smoothly, and pavement is expected to arrive next week.

b. New Icon Building Occupancy – Arnold reported that the building had received a temporary occupancy permit to allow tenants to move in. They will need to pay the remaining SDC fees before final occupancy.

c. Albertson Building Update – Arnold reported that Parkrose Hardware is leasing the old Albertson's building on Blankenship Rd. The hardware store is a permitted use in the zone, so no additional land use review is required. They are not proposing any changes to the outside of the building, so no design review is required.

d. Review of New Business Licenses – Arnold asked if the EDC wanted a regular report of new business licenses applications. Member Knight noted that only 50% of the businesses in the Willamette neighborhood have business licenses. She thought the EDC could do outreach to businesses.

6. Update: Highway 43 Rezoning project

The City Council directed staff to work with the EDC on an evaluation of Highway 43 zoning and uses for a mixed use designation or overlay zone recommendation. The evaluation area is from the West Linn City Limits on HWY 43 from Lake Oswego to Hidden Springs/HWY 43 intersection. Staff is seeking a grant from ODOT for the project. If the application is funded, a consultant team would be hired to complete the project. The grant application is due in June.

7. Proposed Code Language for the Sidewalk Café Program

Member Knight provided background on the Sidewalk Café Program. As part of the Main Street Program, the City drafted an ordinance to regulate sidewalk dining. Businesses would be required to obtain a permit to provide tables on the sidewalk. The draft ordinance will be considered the City Council next week. The draft ordinance allows adjacent property owners to request a sidewalk permit be revoked if the café activities are overly disruptive or problematic to its business operations. Member Knight wanted clarification on the language regarding the adjacent property owner. She also wanted clarification that the City Manager would make the final decision to revoke the permit. Mayor Axelrod noted that the draft ordinance was modeled after successful Sidewalk Ordinance around the state.

8. Other Items of Interest From EDC Members

Board Member members introduced themselves.

Member Knight commented that the City of Estacada had a really good website to help business navigate the COVID-19 public health emergency. Mayor Axelrod said he would ask the Interim City Manager to look at the Estacada's website. Arnold noted that the City of West Linn is looking at ways to provide economic relief to the West Linn businesses.

Mayor Axelrod asked for information about the current business license software.

9. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.