

Economic Development Committee
Tuesday, May 30, 2017 – 4:30 p.m. - City Council Chambers

Members present: Morack, Asman, O'Connell, Faucher, Kopitzke, Bishop, Steinhorst, Tate and Schirpke. Johnson excused.

Also present: Mayor Henke, Administrator Hager, Ginny and Dr. Schlais, Julie Blohm, Judy McDaniel, Wally Schmidt, Betty Roberts, Dave and Ruth Rex, Jennifer Grumann, Ben Grumann, Michele Green and Chris Bermann.

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Morack at 4:30 p.m. O'Connell/Steinhorst to adopt the agenda. Passed 9-0.
2. The City had previously received two replies to the Request for Qualifications that was distributed. One reply came from Wisconsin Redevelopment, Inc., and the other from a partnership of Short Elliott Hendrickson, Inc. and Stadtmueller & Associates, LLC. The Economic Development Committee along with participating members of the Library/Museum Commission separately interviewed the two firms on May 9th and May 16th. The Committee and members of the audience discussed at length their observations regarding the two firms. It was noted that it would be important to have some benchmarks in place to determine when progress is being made. Community input into the plan for the property is a priority. While assistance with a new library is important, the City intends to move ahead with the development of the property regardless what the final determination is regarding a library. Another very important aspect is the financial plan for the future development of the property. We want to put a contract into place between the City and the developer that outlines the understanding of who is doing what regarding implementation of the plan for development of the area. Progress reports will be an important feature going forward as it is likely to take a number of years to develop and implement the plan for the future of the property. A motion was made by Steinhorst and seconded by Asman to move forward with contract negotiations with the partnership of Short Elliott Hendrickson, and Stadtmueller & Associates. Motion passed 8-1 (O'Connell).
3. Committee Chairman Morack asked if there were any other public comments. Julie Blohm addressed some concerns she has regarding a recent article in the paper and the development occurring next to her home. She also is concerned about what she believes is a lack of leadership in the community.
4. The Committee reviewed the status of the economic development goals with Administrator Hager.
5. The Committee reviewed the status of the revolving loan fund with Administrator Hager.
6. The next Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 27, 2017 at 4:30 pm. Given the above agenda, it was planned not to have Bill Zeinert in attendance at this meeting. Bill will be present next month to update the Committee on our digital marketing project. It was suggested that it may be appropriate to invite one or more local realtors to a future meeting to update the Committee regarding the local real estate market.
7. Motion by Steinhorst and seconded by O'Connell to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 5:37 pm.

Kent Hager
City Administrator