



Record of Proceedings of Meeting of the
City Council's Economic Development Committee

Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 5:30 pm
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

DRAFT

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Edens called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm and requested an attendance roll call.

Committee Members in Attendance:

Chair Lauren Edens
Council Member Teresa Clark
Council Member Katie Dodwell
Council Member Mike Gillani
Council Member Dan Flaschar
Council Member Robert Jakcsy
Council Member Scott Ottenberg
Council Member Debra McCutchen

Committee Members Absent:

Staff Members in Attendance:

City Administrator Steve Cross
Asst Director of Planning and Parks Melanie Rippetoe
Planner Robyn Keefe
Meeting Recorder Carla Patrick

II. Approval of Minutes – January, 2022 Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of January 25, 2022 were submitted for approval. Council Member Flaschar motioned for approval of the January meeting minutes, and Council Member Ottenberg seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken with unanimous favorable support. Therefore, Chair Edens declared the motion passed

III. Public Comment(s) – Katie Dodwell, 1655 Timber Hollow, spoke to the hiring of a new Economic Development Manager.

IV. Discussion Item(s)

Ready for Action

A. Presentation – Missouri Main Street Connection Webinar

Planner Robyn Keefe gave a presentation based on her (and Asst Director of Planning and Parks Melanie Rippetoe) attendance at the Community Empowerment Grant Workshop hosted by Missouri Main Street Connection. They noted how this program could be utilized to promote the City's Route 66 corridor and future development of the Route 66 Roadside Park.

Topics included their four-point approach (economic vitality, design, promotion and organization), grant parameters, historical success of the program, revitalization and preservation, and applicable areas for these services within the City (Route 66, Old Manchester, Pond District).

Discussion included highlighting the unique feature of having Route 66 within the City, identifying building histories with onsite markers, commitment from the City and grant requirements.

Council Member Clark motioned to move forward with grant application with the City matching expense of \$12,300 with focus primarily on the Route 66 corridor and as determined by the Planning Department. Council Member Jakcsy seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken with unanimous favorable support. Therefore, Chair Edens declared the motion passed.

B. Update – EDC Website and Associated Documents

Chair Edens noted the need for economic development related areas of the City’s website to include tourism options, demographics, and retail space availability. The Committee was requested to review the site and submit their potential updates to City Administrator Cross.

Council Member Ottenberg motioned for updating the areas of economic development on the City’s website inclusive of tourism, business data and demographics. Council Member Clark seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken with unanimous favorable support. Therefore, Chair Edens declared the motion passed.

For Information –

A. Update – Lawn and Garden Summit

Chair Edens provided a status update of the upcoming Lawn and Garden Summit, including delivery of flyers to local businesses and a new food vendor. Committee members requested volunteer opportunities for their assistance at the event.

B. Update – Northpoint Development

City Administrator Cross provided a status update for the proposed distribution centers development at North Eatherton/Centaur Roads to include traffic study meetings, requested funding assistance and potential benefit/challenges for the City. He noted that Northpoint has been provided the City documents indicating requisite rezoning procedures. He noted that this proposal is just in initial stages of information gathering.

C. Update – City Business Changes

City Administrator Cross provided a review of changes in the business community for the year in response to Chair Edens request for such. He noted new ownership at Craft and Thai Bistro, new openings of Micro Meadows and fitness coaching center and initial interest in a whiskey/cigar lounge.

Not Ready for Action

- A. City Business Licenses Review
- B. Potential City to Business Newsletter
- C. Economic Development Guide Update
- D. St. Louis Green Business Challenge

V. Other Business News and Updates

Discussion was held on the parameters of hiring for economic development responsibilities.

VI. Next Meeting Date is scheduled for Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 6:00 pm

VII. Adjournment

A motion for adjournment was made by Council Member Ottenberg and seconded by Council Member Jakcsy. A voice vote was taken with unanimous favorable support. Therefore, Chair Edens declared the meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.