

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Regular Meeting

August 18, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: By Chairman Wilson on Tuesday, August 18, 2020, at 6:30 p.m..

PRESENT: Chairperson Wilson, Board Members Wirt, Howe and Mayor Armitage.

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Guetschow and City Clerk Terpstra.

ABSENT: Board members Phillips, Anderson, Limas, Barna.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF June 16, 2020: Minutes were tabled due to lack of quorum at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS:

A. DUMPSTERS IN DOWNTOWN PARKING LOTS:

City Manager Guetschow outlined the options in the memo that Community Development Myrkle provided to the board regarding private dumpsters in the parking lots. He stated that Bryan was asking the board for thoughts on this issue. Bryan is gathering costs for building areas for dumpsters. There are options for key fobs or swipe cards to be able to utilize the dumpsters. Bryan has identified five locations that need to be addressed.

Chairman Wilson asked that Mayor Armitage clarify the process to proceed with a plan for dumpsters.

Mayor Armitage stated that there would need to be an ordinance change to comply with having shared dumpsters. This would need to be worked out with the DDA, the ordinance drafted, meetings held at the City Council level with a couple month timeline.

Chairman Wilson indicated that he is not against corrals, however he wishes to see the ordinance updated. He stated that they need answers to work towards. He is not sure about assessing owners that already have dumpsters. He does not think that they should have to pay.

Board member Wirt stated that his dumpster is in the lot currently as there is no other place to put it. He stated that Maxi Muffler is not interested in having other people use his dumpster. He stated that the new restaurant will need a dumpster.

Board member Barna arrived at 6:38 p.m.

Board member Howe stated that having the dumpsters open is an eyesore. If they could at least be covered it would look much better.

Board member Barna stated that a trash corral may be the answer. She would like businesses to have clear guidelines on this issue.

Board member Wirt stated that the location will be the hard issue and who pays for the dumpster.

Chairman Wilson stated that the contract for his business is three years.

Mayor Armitage stated that the initial funding for the corrals would be the hardest and how to pay for the up front costs.

City Manager Guetschow stated that there may be a way to incorporate into the utility billing with a small readiness to serve cost and then another fee added to utilize the service.

Chairman Wilson stated that it would need to be universal across town.

B. STAFF UPDATES/REPORTS, COMMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE:

City Manager Guetschow stated that the new trash receptacles have been received however they have been badly damaged in shipping and are not usable. Bryan is working with the vendor to get the issue resolved.

He stated that Bryan is not in attendance as him and Robert Phillips are at a meeting where Friends of Beach Market are signing the contract to get that project under way.

He stated that there will be two events on September 12, 2020. One will be a business bash and the other a craft and car show where social distancing will be encouraged.

Chairman Wilson commented that they parking lot is very nice and nice to have.

Mayor Armitage stated that the City Clerk is retiring after forty one years and Mr. Guetschow will be leaving in eight weeks which will leave a huge void in our city. The City will be hiring a firm to conduct an analysis of finances, pension liabilities and a number of other things over the fall. They will be searching for a full time City Manager.

Council member Baker stated that he feels the corral situation would be an improvement. He stated that when there was a parking authority downtown that everyone was assessed on footage.

Board member Howe asked about the possibility of Rotary funding the corrals as one of their projects.

Mayor Armitage stated that it would be improving the aesthetics of the downtown area while also deferring costs from the businesses.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF June 16, 2020:

Board member Wirt moved, supported by Barna to approve the minutes of June 16, 2020 as presented.

Board member Wirt moved, supported by Barna to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Ginger Terpstra, City Clerk, CMMC