



Economic Development Committee
Thursday, October 7, 2021 - 10:00 AM
MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Committee Chair Cheryl Robertson called the Economic Development Committee meeting for October 7, 2021 to order at 10:01 am

Members Present - Cheryl Robertson, Carol Van Deest, Mayor Chip Dutcher
Absent - None

Staff present - Jim Lenner, Bailey Klimchak, Jack Liggett, Marvin Block, Teresa Monroe.

Public present - None

2. Action on Minutes

a. September 16, 2021

ACTION: Chip Dutcher moved to Approve; Carol Van Deest seconded and all were in favor

AYES: Cheryl Robertson, Carol Van Deest, Chip Dutcher

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 3 - 0

3. Mobility Hub Update

Jim Lenner said they are in the final stretch of the grant application, working with partners, the deadline is October 19th. Cheryl Robertson asked if council and staff could have a paragraph to explain what this is and what it accomplishes so when asked, all will be on the same page and saying the same thing. Jim said that can be condensed from the application.

Mr. Lenner said the President of Otterbein reached out to him and would like to work together along with three or four businesses in that space.

2021 Committee Goals

1. Plan for and target types of employers the village wants to attract; Manufacturing, Commercial, Business Offices - Update ED Plan to solidify vision for facilities (By end of Q1)
 2. Develop a Comprehensive Plan for a future Incubator Space - Manager working to create a plan outline to share with CIC
 3. Develop common purpose with Park & Rec Committee to promote park and rec amenities; Eco-tourism.
 4. Enterprise Center Drive construction completion in 2021 - In progress
 5. Obtain rezoning of the remainder of the Enterprise Center land - Discussions ongoing
 6. Provide consistent communication on joint projects with the CIC - Minutes and verbal report on CIC agendas.
 7. Develop a business census - In progress
 8. Help facilitate formation of Chamber of Commerce - Enlist help from CIC and Licking County Chamber of Commerce
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4. Project River; next steps to completion

CRA legislation was passed by Council, next step will be for staff to execute the agreement. New River should close by month end, \$200,000 in proceeds come back to Johnstown upon closing and thirty days after execution of the contract will receive \$50,000.

5. Downtown Area Businesses

a.

- New Ghostwriter Hotel
- Empty Store Fronts
- Downtown Remodels

- Village cannot collect hotel tax from Ghostwriter hotel because there are only three rooms, according to Licking County, need to have five rooms to be taxed.
- County Health and Building departments have been engaged on the White Cross Lodge building and its condition.
- Family Restaurant has sold, new owner has submitted a CRA application for abatement and will be remodeled.
- Dennis Blankemeyer has also submitted a CRA application for the bourbon bar.
- Ace Hardware architect said Johnstown Design Standards are preventing them from building what they want. Discussion on the current building rendering shown, parking, building design, storm water management and enforcement of the Design Standards. Nothing official has been submitted from Ace yet.
- Discussion on stormwater and pond maintenance
- Village of Hartford is interested in Johnstown water only if the grant is received for resident connections.

6. Handling of Future Commercial/Industrial Development; Discussion

Jim Lenner said Representative Frasier is trying to make things easier on municipalities that don't get cooperation with their school districts, a new bill would favor municipalities. Discussion on a Public Records request for school district revenue sources. Ms. Van Deest asked that we also request how they are using their rescue funds. Discussion on New Albany development.

7. Other Business

1. Elements Dental in search of property to purchase; sites available discussed, Ms. Klimchak said they have not contacted her.
2. Aldi's going in on this side of New Albany
3. Dunkin talking about property purchase
4. Tech to have design documents for COA any day

5. Installation of water line to Johnson property to begin in the next thirty days
6. Discussion on annexation of property up to Duncan Plains and Holbrook commitment.

8. Adjourn

ACTION: Carol Van Deest moved to Adjourn; Chip Dutcher seconded and all were in favor.

AYES: Cheryl Robertson, Carol Van Deest, Chip Dutcher

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 3 - 0

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 am