

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Date and Time: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 5:15 p.m., Council Chambers

Members Present: Tom Neal (c), Gary Gisselman, Patrick Peckham, Lisa Rasmussen and Michael Martens

Others Present: Chris Schock, Anne Jacobson, Brad Lenz, Robert Mielke, Tammy Stratz and Michelle Van Krey

In accordance with Chapter 19, Wisc. Statutes, notice of this meeting was posted and sent to the Daily Herald in the proper manner.

The Economic Development Committee meeting was called to order by Neal at 5:15 p.m.

1# Approval of the Minutes from 12/17/2019 and 1/7/2020

Peckham noted that in the 12/17/19 minutes Garret Perry's name was spelled incorrectly in item #2. Peckham also suggested that in the 1/7/20 minutes that under item #2 the wording in the last sentence of the second paragraph be changed from "...offsite pumping and treatment system that is needed..." be changed to "...offsite pumping and treatment system that may be required...".

Motion by Peckham, second by Martens to approve the minutes as amended. Motion passed 5-0.

#2 Discussion and Possible Action on the Property Disposition application received for the property at 1328 Torney Avenue

Tammy Stratz, Community Development Manager, explained the property disposition program in which the city has vacant lots available for sale. Habitat for Humanity has made an offer of \$2,000 on the lot located at 1328 Torney Avenue to build a house. Neal asked if this offer was on par with previous offers made by Habitat for Humanity. Stratz explained that this offer is actually higher than previous lots the city has sold or transferred to Habitat for Humanity.

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Martens to move forward as proposed.

Motion passed 5-0.

#3 CLOSED SESSION pursuant to 19.85(1)(e) of the Wisconsin Statutes for deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session:

- **Discussion and Possible Action on the Property Disposition application received for the property at 1328 Torney Avenue**

Closed Session was not required and no action was taken.

#4 Reconvene into Open Session, if necessary

Closed Session was not required and no action was taken

#5 Updates on Current Projects

Schock provided the following updates:

- Net new construction

The state's net new construction rates came out and the City of Wausau had another year of growth. One nice thing to note is the broad based nature of the growth including industrial and commercial expansions but also new home starts in the city.

- Wausau Center Mall

The sale of the Wausau Center Mall to WOZ closed today, February 4th. The group has hired a local developer/contractor, Ghidorzi, to serve as their contact point. They are maintaining a good relationship with Mid America, the company that manages the mall and steps will be made to put forward a vision for the future of the space.

- Candidate development roundtable opportunity

The Development Department in partnership with the Mayor's office will be hosting a development roundtable for the public and candidates regarding development and strategy. The tentative dates are 2/20/20 at 5:30pm and 3/3/20 at 4:00pm in the Maple Room. After further discussion it was decided to reserve both the Maple Room and the Council Chambers to be prepared if large amounts of people show up. Rasmussen asked that MaryAnne Groat, Finance Director, be included so she can share the details and dates of the various TIDs. Schock confirmed that MaryAnne will be at the 3/3/20 meeting.

- 2020 Economic Development Strategy

Schock shared the current Economic Development strategy with the committee (see packet). Rasmussen and Neal expressed support in this strategy noting that it was a nice change when this strategy was created and put into place because it gave basis to decisions being made.

Special Instructions or Directives to Staff:

None

Motion by Peckham, second by Martens to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

Adjournment Time: 5:40 p.m.