



**AGENDA  
CITY OF LAUREL  
LAUREL URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2019  
11:00 AM  
LAUREL CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**Public Input:** *Citizens may address the committee regarding any item of business that is not on the agenda. The duration for an individual speaking under Public Input is limited to three minutes. While all comments are welcome, the committee will not take action on any item not on the agenda.*

**General Items**

1. Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 11:06AM.

Mardie Spalinger

Don Smarsh

Michelle DeBoer (Prospective Advisory Member)

Janice Lehman

Judy Goldsby

Nick Altonaga (City of Laurel)

2. Approve Meeting Minutes: August 19, 2019

Board members reviewed the Meeting Minutes from August 19, 2019.

Discussion of the recent lack of attendance by Big Sky EDA Member.

Don motioned to accept minutes from August 19, 2019.

Mardie Seconded.

Motion Carried.

**New Business**

3. Grant Application: Nardella Facade Grant

Members review the Application and its supporting documents.

Don motioned to accept the Façade Grant Application at \$2,492.50

Mardie Seconded.

Motion Carried.

**Old Business**

4. Grant Application: Front Porch General Small Grant

Members discussed the two grants being applied for and their allowable costs and reimbursements.

Don motioned to approve the General Small Grant request at 50% at \$1,575.00

Mardie Seconded.

Motion Carried.

Don motioned to approve the maximum allowable amount of \$6,000 for the façade grant request.

Mardie Seconded.

Motion carried.

## 5. Grant Application: Mountain Land Rehab Facade Grant

Members discussed what is allowable and applicable for reimbursement. Members would like verification of which items go to which grant requests to ensure there is no duplication. The Planner will contact Brian at Mountain Land Rehab to provide clarification of requested amounts.

## Other Items

### 6. LURA Budget

Planner presented the budget and the line items which have been added. Members discussed how it could be further itemized to include the amounts paid out per applicant.

What is the total amount of funds available for the Façade, Technical Assistance, and General Small Grants? Would it be possible to have a sit down meeting to discuss how much is appropriated for each program? (What is available, what has been paid out, and who has been paid out?)

Members would like to know what the estimated amount to be bonded is in the future and the proposed yearly debt service to determine what funding will be left for the LURA Board to fund the different grant programs.

Members had a general discussion of how to encourage Main Street properties to keep up their properties and sidewalks which included incentives, notifying them of the grant programs, and marketing and outreach attempts. Not many people know or even understand the TIF District and how it works.

Members further discussed the vacancy rate downtown and how to boost walk-in traffic. It is difficult to retain certain businesses such as restaurants. Members mentioned how it is important to highlight what property owners pay in, and what they can get out. Members asked if it is possible to get a list of what people have paid in to the TIF District.

The City Planner will work to enter all available applications into the spreadsheets to create an organized, centralized directory of information on the applicants.

## Announcements

Don motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Mardie Seconded

Motion Carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:10PM.

## 7. Next Meeting: October 21, 2019

**The City makes reasonable accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person's ability to participate in this meeting. Persons needing accommodation must notify the City Clerk's Office to make needed arrangements. To make your request known, please call 406-628-7431, Ext. 2, or write to City Clerk, PO Box 10, Laurel, MT 59044, or present your request at City Hall, 115 West First Street, Laurel, Montana.**

**DATES TO REMEMBER**