



MINUTES
CITY OF WAUPUN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING
Zoom
Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 4:30 PM

Committee Members Present:

Steve Brooks Waupun Utilities
Jim Cleveland Envision Greater Fond du Lac
Pete Kaczmarek..... City Council
Ryan Mielke (arrived at 4:38 p.m.) City Council
Julie Nickel Mayor
Jason Westphal City Council

Staff Present:

Jeff Daane Director of Public Works
Kathy Schlieve Administrator
Jeff Stanek Waupun Utilities
Sarah Van Buren Community & Economic Development Coordinator
Dan VandeZande City Attorney

Guests:

Elle Henne Envision Greater Fond du Lac

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Kaczmarek called the virtual meeting of the Economic Development Committee meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS:

Roll call and quorum determined.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Approval of Agenda/Motion to Deviate

Administrator Schlieve requested agenda item #7 be moved to be discussed in advance of items to be discussed in closed session. A motion to approve the agenda, with the recommended change, was made by Mayor Nickel and seconded by Mr. Westphal, passing unanimously.

2. Approval of October 27, 2020 Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the October 27, 2020 minutes was made by Mayor Nickel and seconded by Mr. Brooks, passing unanimously.

3. Approval of October 27, 2020 Economic Development Closed Session Minutes

A motion to approve the October 27, 2020 closed session minutes was made by Mr. Westphal and seconded by Mayor Nickel, passing unanimously.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION:

A motion was made by Mayor Nickel and seconded by Mr. Westphal to adjourn into closed session under Section 19.85 (1) of the WI Statutes for:

(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. Motion was unanimously approved.

4. Land Negotiations of City-Owned Industrial Land

5. Update on 520 McKinley Street Negotiations in TID 6

6. Negotiations of Property Located at 505 Libby Street

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Mayor Nickel and seconded by Mr. Westphal to reconvene in open session under Section 19.85(2) of the WI Statutes. Motion unanimously approved.

ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

7. Economic Development Strategic Plan Update & Market Research

Administrator Schlieve providing an update on the work being done by Envision Greater Fond du Lac regarding the market research being done to assist the City how to best use the available industrial land. Ms. Henne, Envision Greater Fond du Lac, put together a comprehensive draft report that was included in the meeting packet.

Ms. Henne provided an overview of the draft document. Three industries were researched: meat packing; food processing; and advanced manufacturing. Based on the research, Envision Greater Fond du Lac is supportive of Waupun attracting companies in the advanced manufacturing sector. There is already a significant number of skilled workers in manufacturing and employees in that industry would not qualify for community resources.

Mr. Kaczmarek asked Ms. Henne if there were any median or long-range recommendations from this report. Ms. Henne stated Envision Greater Fond du Lac has the ability to do a long-range economic impact analysis but more information would be needed that was not currently available. However, it was noted that even additional information would not change their recommendation.

Mr. Westphal raised concerns about workforce availability for the advanced manufacturing sector. Ms. Henne reminded the group that workforce is a concern that is being seen across the country and is not unique to Wisconsin. With the strong manufacturing sector in the region, the workforce is available and the starting wages being offered still makes this an attractive industry to pursue.

Administrator Schlieve mentioned logistics and warehousing would be looked at in future iterations of this report.

8. Attaining Main Street Status

Due to a lack of time, this item will be discussed at a future meeting.

ADVANCED PLANNING:

9. Potential Agenda Items

Agenda items will be determined as needed.

10. Date of Next Scheduled Meeting

The next meeting will be in January 2021. A date and time will be determined based on Committee member availability.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion to adjourn was made by Mayor Nickel and seconded by Mr. Brooks, passing unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.