



CITY OF LAWRENCE REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MINUTES

February 25, 2020

4:00 p.m.

Public Assembly Room

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: David Blount, Jerry Clifford, Brian Hicks, Becky Parker, Cheryl Sullivan, and non-voting advisory member Dick Freije.

STAFF PRESENT: Economic Development Director, Cam Starnes and Deputy Chief of Staff, Joe Murphy.

Also present: Chris Barnett (LCDC), and District 4 Lawrence Councilor, Maria Rusomaroff.

CALL TO ORDER & DETERMINATION OF QUORUM: President David Blount called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and announced a quorum.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Blount asked the minutes from January 28, 2020 be approved. Ms. Sullivan made the motion; Ms. Parker seconded. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Claims were submitted for \$20,359.00. Mr. Starnes provided a summary of claims and answered questions from the Commission. Mr. Starnes provided a clarification of accounting and financing of the EPA grant expenditures. Mr. Hicks made a motion for approval thereof; Mr. Clifford seconded the motion. The Commission approved unanimously.

STAFF REPORT: Mr. Starnes provided an overview of a new topic for the Commission to consider regarding real estate near 46th & Franklin Road. The RDC owns two parcels adjacent to the former Gold Brick Tavern property which it previously acquired from the Marion County Treasurer. A representative for the owners of the former Gold Brick Tavern building contacted Mr. Starnes to ask if the RDC is interested in purchasing the Gold Brick parcel or, alternatively, selling its parcels. Mr. Starnes answered questions from the Commission. The Commission requested a document listing all RDC-owned properties.

1. Trades District:

a. **Freije Project Update:** Mr. Starnes provided a summarized update of the project and answered questions from the Commission. Mr. Starnes noted a Metropolitan Development Commission hearing scheduled on March 4, and that the parties hope to achieve agreement on a site plan and gain consent for the adjacent properties. Mr. Starnes will provide MDC meeting details to the Commission via email.

2. Workforce Development and MSDLT Partnership: Mr. Starnes continues to meet regularly with MSDLT in partnership around Workforce Development in regards to skilled trades. Mr. Starnes thanked Joe Murphy for his continued leadership in the program and noted the February 28 Lawrence Trades Workforce Development meeting that will take place. Both Mr. Starnes and Mr. Murphy answered questions from the Commission.

3. EPA Grant: Mr. Starnes noted that a new 3-year EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant has been awarded in the amount of \$300,000.00. Mr. Starnes answered questions from the Commission.

4. Mira Awards: Mr. Starnes noted that the City of Lawrence was a finalist in 2019 and has been nominated in 2020 for the category of Rising Tech City Award by Techpoint, part of the Central Indiana Corporate Partnership. Mr. Starnes will perform the finalist interview with the panel on

behalf of the City and Fort Harrison Reuse Authority. Mr. Starnes answered questions from the Commission.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Approval of engagement from Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP for legal and consulting services.**
Due to time constraints, the discussion will be moved to the next RDC meeting.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE RDC: The Commission noted that Papa's Pancake House is closed. Mr. Starnes confirmed that a bank will replace the restaurant and two parcels east of that location will be the site of a future Burger King. The redevelopment of these parcels stems from market activity with no RDC involvement, but should generate some degree of incremental property tax revenue which will be captured by the Pendleton Pike TIF district. Mr. Blount welcomed District 5 Common Council member, Maria Rusomaroff.

There being no other business to come before the Commission, Mr. Blount concluded business of the meeting. Ms. Parker motioned for adjournment at 5:00 p.m.; Ms. Sullivan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

David Blount, President

Mary Jo Rothenbush, Recording Secretary

These minutes are not intended to be verbatim. They are a summary of discussion held, with the exception of motions.