

Economic Development Committee Minutes
March 20, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: B. Blue, K. Breyley, D. Dietrich, Mayor Garlich, and R. Wiech.

Also present: Dan Weir – Administrator, Tom Curtin – Geauga Park District

Agenda: no additions or deletions.

Minutes for March 13, 2012: minutes were presented for approval. Blue moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Wiech. All in favor: Yeas (5).

OLD BUSINESS

1. B&O Right of Way – Mayor Garlich gave a brief overview to the committee. There was an appraisal done on the property and there are issues from the streets, sidewalk, and utility committee we need to address. The Village needs to retain utility easements, ingress, and egress abilities, utility easements and ability to cross with a truck route or other roadway. Weir stated that he has spoken with Mr. Curtin to great lengths about this and these are negotiable. Wiech stated one of the concerns would be if the Village decides to put in a bypass, would the Village be able to cross over the bike path. Mr. Curtin stated there have been issues in the past; but the district will work with the Village and write something into the contract. Mr. Curtin gave an overview of the bike path and assured the committee that the park district does not want to limit economic growth for the Village. Mr. Curtin stated that the park district will purchase the property for the appraised amount. The park district would like to pay for the property over a two year period, with a reduction in taxes that the district put in place, they only budgeted \$200,000.00 a year for land acquisition; so they would like to split the cost over two years if possible. Wiech stated the purchase price is \$225,000.00. The committee had no issue with splitting the payments over two years. Mayor Garlich stated that from Tare Creek to the center of town no buggy traffic would be permitted and discussion was held on the route of the bike path. Wiech asked if the district planned on putting in a place for individuals to park. Mr. Curtin stated that there is no plan for a parking area. Individuals will have to park at Headwaters or Grandview. There are plenty of areas for parking in the Village. The committee agreed. Mayor Garlich provided the committee with a list of positive and negatives that Weir had prepared. Discussion was held on the list. Blue stated that he would like see the written contract before a final decision would be made. Wiech agreed. Mr. Curtin will get something prepared for the next council meeting.
2. Village Promotional CD status – Discussion was held. Mayor Garlich asked if Breyley could clean up the notes on the footprint. Mayor Garlich asked if the committee wanted to add anything. Breyley stated she would like to know if a script would be given. Mayor Garlich stated that Ms. Wilber will be at the meeting next week. Breyley stated she would like to see the script.
3. Methodist Church – A letter was provided to the committee for review that was prepared by Weir. Discussion was held. Mayor would send out letter.

4. Farmers Market status – Breyley gave a status update. Breyley stated she spoke with an Amish gentleman from Country Side Bakery on Mumford Road. He has done several farmers markets and the ones that do the best are the ones that have a good board. What customers want is local produce and board makes sure to have that. Some crafts can be offered, but they need to be homemade. Breyley stated she also spoke with another member of the Amish community. She suggested that you start early and have to make sure you speak with the health department. Also, you have to regulate what people are going to bringing what. Breyley stated it is a long process. Mayor Garlich stated that the Village should talk with the vendors at the farmers market in Shaker and see if the Village does there farmers market on another day, if the vendors would participate.
5. Community Garden status – Discussion was held on the specifics of the gardens and contract for use of the garden.
6. Comprehensive Plan – Discussion was held. Will have qualifications from firms to review.
7. Development Projects Update and Discussion – Mayor Garlich gave a brief update to the committee on various projects and new businesses.
8. Geauga County Airport – Mayor Garlich stated that he spoke had a meeting this evening. Discussion was held on the future of the airport and the possibility of annexation of the airport property into the Village. Currently, the runway is the only portion of the airport that is in the Village. Lengthy discussion was held on the airport property.

NEW BUSINESS

1. General Discussion – The committee opened to general discussion. Blue asked about the calendar on the website, why it did not include all community events. Breyley stated they left it to the major groups, the Village, Kiwanis, and Chamber of Commerce. The calendar is currently up to date with all of the various events from the listed groups. Next week's meeting; Ms. Wilber will be present to discuss the promotional Village CD. Also, will review qualifications from planning firm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:45 p.m., Mayor Garlich moved to adjourn into executive session for the purpose of land acquisition, seconded by Wiech. All in favor: All Yeas (5).

The meeting reconvened at 9:00 p.m.

Being no further business at this time, Wiech moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:01 p.m.

PENDING

1. Shared Services
2. Auditor Recommendations

3. Residential Development
4. Business Proposals
5. Website Demo – Village Businesses
6. Review Signage Regulations - Commercial
7. Village Comprehensive Plan
8. W. High Street Corridor
9. Consider Acquisition of Key Properties
10. Flex Building Space