

City of Franklin Economic Development Commission

MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 28, 2010

I. Call to Order, Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Skowronski in the Hearing Room of Franklin City Hall at 6:00 p.m.

Members present were Chairman Skowronski, Alderman Olson and Commissioners Burac-Englert, Karolewicz, Kerr, Oleson and Michlig. Commissioner Desai (6:01) arrived later. Commissioners Haselow, Hintz, Zawacki and Ohm were excused. Also present was Assistant City Attorney Sajdak.

II. Citizen Comment Period

The Chairman opened the floor to citizen comment. There being no citizens present wishing to speak, the Citizen Comment Period was closed.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes

A. May 25, 2010 Meeting Minutes

Motion made (Michlig) and seconded (Kerr) to approve the minutes of the May 25, 2010 meeting of the Economic Development Commission with corrections. Motion carried; Ayes (8), Noes (0) with Alderman Olson abstaining.

IV. Business

A. Trail Committee Report

Commissioner Michlig presented information on the Safe Routes to Schools planning grant. He indicated that 3 individuals had attended grant writing conference. Discussion followed on whether the Safe Routes program should include the high school.

B. 27th Street Steering Committee Report

Alderman Olson went over preliminary cost estimates for cost share. Discussion followed concerning the cost share arrangement and its implications for the Drexel Interchange project. Commissioner Michlig suggested that there needs to be some effort by Franklin to mitigate the impact of the interchange.

- C. Subcommittee on Economic Development Incentives Report and Possible recommendation to Common Council on Economic Development Incentive priorities, programs and/or standards

** NOTE: Discussion combined with Item D given their similarities.

- D. Consideration of a RFP/RFQ for Consultant to Perform an Economic Development Priorities Review & Identify Economic Development Incentive Program Options and possible recommendation to Common Council re same – On Referral from Common Council

Commissioner Karolewicz began by providing a review of what other communities are doing. Discussion followed among members suggesting that a large part of the problem is the process – it just takes too long to get approvals and nobody is there to provide information as to what is necessary. Commissioner Michlig suggested that the Commission cannot administer any proposed program and a marketing point-person should be hired. Discussion followed.

Motion made (Ald. Olson) and seconded (Michlig) to recommend to the Common Council that consideration of the hiring of a consultant for the proposed RFP/RFQ be tabled indefinitely. Motion Carried on a roll call vote with Ald. Olson and Commissioners Burac-Englert, Karolewicz, Oleson, Michlig and Desai voting Aye (6) and Commissioner Kerr voting Noe (1). Chairman Skowronski abstained as the Chair.

Commissioner Michlig indicated that the EDC needs to justify its activities. Discussion followed.

Motion made (Kerr) and seconded (Ald. Olson) to direct the Subcommittee to establish the incentive standards and possible programs that would form the guide for any future RFP/RFQ request. Following discussion on the motion, the motion carried; Ayes (6), Noes (1 – Burac-Englert), with the Chair abstaining.

Motion made (Oleson) and seconded (Michlig) to recommend to the Common Council that Franklin engage an Economic Development Director for the City. Motion carried: Ayes (7), Noes (0) with the Chair Abstaining.

Motion to throw out RFP/RFQ and spend the money on customer service training for planning, engineering and inspection departments

- E. Chairman's Report on Business Activities in Franklin

Chairman Skowronski indicated that the Hitters baseball proposal was being held up with DNR wetland issues. Commisisoner Michlig indicated that Northwestern Mutual had rejected a request for safe-routes to school funding. Commissioner Desai asked about the dirt moving activities on Loomis near the Rawson Avenue ramp which was explained to be fill being done by permit.

V. Next Meeting Date – July 26, 2010

The next meeting of the Economic Development Commission will be July 26, 2010.

VI. Adjournment

Motion made (Kerr) and seconded (Michlig) to adjourn the June 28, 2010 meeting of the Economic Development Commission. Motion carried: Ayes (8), Noes (0).