

# **Mount Pulaski Economic Development and Planning Board**

Meeting Minutes  
November 26, 2018

## **Opening**

The regular meeting of the Mount Pulaski Economic Development and Planning Board was called to order at 6:33 p.m. on November 26, 2018 in MPCF office by Tom Martin.

## **Present**

Shaun Tyson, Tom Martin, Tim Emrick, Renee Martin, Matt Bobell

Absent: Hillary Cherry

Guests: Melinda Scott, Chris Walsh, Michelle Emrick, Loren Holmes, Dan Phillips, Mat Davis.

Late arrival guests: John Buescher, Deanna Howard.

## **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting were not presented at this meeting.

## **Treasurers Report**

Tim Emrick presented the treasurers report to date.

Shaun Tyson made a motion to accept the treasurers report. Renee Martin seconded. All were unanimously in favor. Motion passed.

## **Open Issues**

Tom Martin opened the meeting discussion talking about long term planning with the city council zoning board and then he turned the meeting over to Tim Emrick. Emrick thought that the Economic Development and Planning Board could help the city council and zoning board by providing advisory opinions. The next portion of the meeting was a trial run. Chris Walsh and Melinda Scott presented a business idea for a north-west side of town (Dekalb Street). Walsh and Scott are wanting to buy a 5.52-acre piece of land owned by Bill Stoll. They want to rezone the property from agriculturally zoned to 1.52 acres zoned residentially and 4 acres zoned commercially. They would like to put up storage units. There was discussion about details of storage units and what they would consist of. There will be a zoning board hearing at city hall December 18, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

## **Committee Reports**

Community Garden- Zion's Pastor, Jonathan Buescher, came to discuss the idea of a community garden that could be located on the square of Mount Pulaski. There may be a chance for the EDPB to purchase the land on the corner of Cooke and Lafayette and have Zion run and manage the community gardens. Community Gardens are first come, first serve for plots. This opportunity could help benefit Zion's summer food program. Pastor Buescher has an example contract from Springfield's community gardens and has experience with them.

#### Grants-

Deanna Howard bought Lana Hebenstreits buildings located on Washington Street. She redid the roof on the building. Building is in good shape. Will be a retail space and will be leased downstairs. She will remodel the apartments upstairs and rent out.

Deanna Howard applied for a grant for 102 S. Washington for the total amount of \$14,175 for the roof, awning, lights on mural, etc.

Shaun Tyson moved to approve a total of \$7,000 for Deanna Howards properties at S. Washington St. for reimbursement for the new roof. Tim Emrick seconded.

Roll call vote: Tim Emrick-Yes, Shaun Tyson-Yes, Tom Martin- Yes, Renee Martin-Yes

Motion passed.

This will go in front of the city council on December 11, 2018 for approval. (City Council approved)

EDPB went over budget for grants and needs to move more money in that fund.

Shaun Tyson moves to move \$5,000 from long term planning fund to the grant fund to cover the \$7,000 approved for Deanna Howards grant. Tim Emrick seconded.

Roll call vote: Tim Emrick-Yes, Shaun Tyson-Yes, Tom Martin- Yes, Renee Martin-Yes

#### **Discussion**

Community grant will wire money to our general fund from the Hilltopper Wind Farm.

Need to lock down grant program.

Need to think about investment monies. Will split monies between the two town banks.

Talked about a revolving loan for community, but need to educate ourselves on the topic. Evan Westlake from INB would have more information on this topic. Tom Martin to bring more information on this topic.

Dave Leonetti, architect from Springfield, will come and talk to the community about the square revitalization.

There will be an assessment of lighting on the square and at city hall by Ameren.

#### **Visitor Center at the Museum:**

Logan County Tourism will provide signage and literature. Tourism will also provide training.

#### **Planning Meeting Review:**

- 1. Need to hire an assistant and come up with title for job**
- 2. Tom Martin to work with Sarah Watson and Bill Thomas on job description for a part time position/20 hours per week/no benefits**
- 3. Will use wind farm money to pay assistant (Wind Farm Payments \$250,000 one-time payment and \$115,000 annually.)**
- 4. Strategic Planning Review Meetings to be held in March and November.**

#### **Grant Program Review:**

Application to city hall of by email to EDPB.

Receipts to treasurer.

No deadline dates and will accept and review project by project.

Must have budget for grants.

Review information and make more efficient.

#### **Agenda for Next Meeting**

Meet with Hillary Cherry to figure out about website.

Business Development- Talk with Beth Sasse who is trying to set up a county wide cooperative for day care.

Projector, buy one?

Partnering with the Business Association to talk about Grocery Store.

**Adjournment**

Motion made by Emrick to adjourn, Tyson seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m. by Tom Martin. The next general meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. on December 17, in MPCF Office.

Minutes submitted by: Renee Martin (Filling in for Hillary Cherry)