



**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SULLIVAN,
ILLINOIS, MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 2018**

1. The City Council of the City of Sullivan, Illinois, met in a special session on Monday, August 20, 2018, at 5:00 p.m. at the Elizabeth Titus Memorial Library, 2 West Water Street, Sullivan. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Short. A roll call was taken.

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- present
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- present
Commissioner Grant Wade	- present
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- present
Mayor Ann Short	- present

2. Mayor Short asked if there were any comments from the public in attendance. Many business people or leaders of community organizations spoke to the positive work and efforts by the SCED. People speaking to the strengths of the SCED throughout the meeting included Ted Walk, John Summers, Linda Huber, Zak Horn, Debbie Hilligoss, Chip Christensen, Darby Beery, and Nichole Mercer.

It was asked by Nancy Barker what prompted the special meeting, and Mayor Short explained that funding through TIF will soon expire, and the Council needs to figure out how to move forward instead of waiting of the agreement to expire.

Richard Glazebrook remarked that in a meeting in July it was stated that nothing would happen with regards to the SCED and that the Council would let things play out until 2019. He asked if there were any problems, if anything needed tweaking, or if anything needed to be done by the people of the City. Mayor Short stated that it was thought best by the Council to begin discussions on this matter because the contract with SCED would be ending soon. Commissioner Kirk also explained that the final payment due in 2019 is to cover the 2018 calendar year. It is believed that the sooner the Council makes a decision on funding for the SCED, the more time the SCED will have to plan for their future.

3. Commissioner Kirk explained that the SCED has changed a lot and grown since the beginning. One issue with the City funding the SCED with TIF money is that those TIF dollars are being spent must only be used on TIF projects. There is concern that with everything Ms. Minor (the SCED Director) must do, and how the position has evolved, she is unable to spend \$70,000 worth of resources on TIF. The money given to the SCED by the City belongs to the citizens of Sullivan, and there isn't a way to show that the time's emphasis is spent on Sullivan.

Mayor Short stated that the City has other sources that could be used to contribute to the Chamber and their activities. Commissioner Kirk cautioned that the City must be careful to use the funding in a legal manner with the watchdog groups looking closely at spending. Commissioner Mossman stated that he doesn't want to see the funding go away, but that the City needs to look at other funding sources.

Commissioner Kirk also noted that by the time the current contract ends with the SCED, there could be an entirely new Council making decisions. The current Council is committed to finishing the current contract, but there is no guarantee that the new Council would go along with any plans being made by the current Council. Mayor Short said that the current Council wants to plan for the future even if those individuals aren't going to be here.

Commissioner Risley asked Ms. Minor what percent of the City's funding covers their total budget. She said that counting the County's contribution, the City's funding accounts for about half of their budget. She also said that she spends most of her time on economic development, and Melinda does most of the chamber work. She estimates that she spends 60% of her time on economic development, and maybe 70-80% including tourism and economic development.

The history of the SCED and the funding from the City was explained by Mayor Short and was discussed amongst the Council. It was discussed how the current agreement with the SCED doesn't show much clarity, other than to say that all of the funding must be spent on work for the TIF districts. It could be that in the future the City might want more stipulations or parameters in the agreement or more guarantee that the City's money would be used for development of the City of Sullivan.

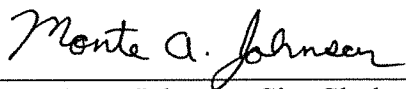
Mayor Short thanked everybody for the good discussions and good ideas, and asked where the Council should go from here. The Council needs to think about possible future funding sources and what kind of parameters might be put on a future agreement. The Council will try to coordinate a date for another special meeting in about a month.

4. A motion was made by Commissioner Risley and seconded by Commissioner Mossman that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was reduced to writing and read to the Council. Upon roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Grant Wade	- yea
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried and the meeting was adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Attest



Monte Johnson, City Clerk



Mayor Ann Short