

Economic Development Corporation
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 19, 2020

Attending: Beth Reindel, Mike Fassezke, Chris Rittmueller, Michael Southgate, Tamara Tsulaia, Brandon Muller, Abby Curtis, Joe Cramer, Vickie Schmitzer and Todd Jennings.

Absent: Tim Hildner and Mike Grossi

Also attending were Joann Crary of Saginaw Future, Mayor Mary Ann Ackerman, Bridget Smith, Ashley McKnight and Sheila Stamiris.

In accordance with an order issued November 18, 2020 by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, this meeting was held remotely in order to ensure that the City of Frankenmuth complies with limits on gatherings. This meeting was open to the public and public participation was allowed and encouraged.

Attendance for this meeting was affirmed by roll call. There was no public input.

The minutes of the October 15, 2020, meeting were approved with a revision correcting that Mike Fassezke is "President of Flour Milling at Star of the West" and not "Vice-president" as written. Schmitzer moved; Furbush seconded.

Business Park Signage. At the request of staff, Sign Pal designed a signage package with a proposal to design, manufacture and install two "For Sale" signs for the Business Park at a price of \$935 for design and manufacture and \$400 for installation for a total cost of \$1,335.00. Staff will investigate the cost of installation of the signs by the DPW and select appropriately.

Sample designs based on input from staff were shared. The Main Street sign is acceptable "as designed." Recommendations to improve the on-premise sign including changing yellow fonts to an alternate color for better readability and changing "Fiber Optic Available" to "Gigabyte Fiber Available."

The EDC recommends the design and purchase of sale signs through Sign Pal and the installation of both through Sign Pal or others for a price not to exceed \$1,335.00. Cramer moved; Reindel seconded.

Star of the West Flake Project. The City Council approved the tax abatement recommended by the EDC for the project. They also approved the conditional zoning request which has allowed Star of the West to begin construction on the project as requested.

Ascension St. Mary's Proposed Project on the Loesel Property. Stamiris gave a quick review of the project. St. Mary's has a purchase agreement with a 6-month option to buy and develop the Loesel property as a medical center serving the Greater Frankenmuth area and the Thumb. Additionally, St. Mary's wants to build an indoor recreation center with rehab facility as part of the project. St. Mary's approached the City with this project and full development details are not known at this time. The DDA has authorized a feasibility study to assist in the project development with a company called Sports Facilities Advisors (SFA.) The feasibility study will be done in two parts: an initial study of the St. Mary's project and a second study based on the outcome of the St. Mary's project to determine what

complimentary sports/recreation use should be pursued on the City's Weiss Street property. The project was well-received by the EDC.

Around the Table. Members shared updates for their business or neighborhoods. Highlights included:

- Star of the West project is proceeding well benefitted by good weather.
- The Greenfields project is in design for landscape planning.
- The Frankenmuth Christmas Experience is well received. The Chamber & CVB is grateful for the support received. "Frankenmuth is bringing its "A" game."
- Many schools passed bonds and the tech-opportunities of the construction projects is strong.
- The Woolen Mill project is moving forward having just received approval from the HDC for the design. The Planning Commission will review site plans next Tuesday.
- City Beautification is planning a fund-raiser called "Lights, Sites & Bites" combining a self-guided tour of Christmas lights with cookies and cocoa.
- Big construction is wrapping up for the season. A large wind farm is planned for the Merrill area.
- Saginaw Future will present its Annual Report to the City in December. The EDC will review the request for funding for recommendation to City Council. at its December meeting.
- The City is very business with development projects. The Planning Commission will hear about 6 condo commercial units on Kleiner Street, a second phase at "The Springs" on Tuscola and the Woolen Mill expansion."

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Stamiris, Director