**Mt Pulaski Economic Development and Planning Board**

**(EDPB)**

**Meeting Minutes**

January 21, 2019

(Recreated by Deanna Howard for website)

1. **Call to order**

Tyson moved to adjourn the meeting. Renee Martin seconded. All were in favor. Tom Martin called to order the regular meeting of the EDPB at 6:34 p.m. on January 21, 2019 at EDPB office.

1. **Roll Call**

Renee Martin conducted a roll call. The following persons were present: Tom Martin. Shaun Tyson, Tim Emerick, Renee Martin. Mayor Matt Bobell. There were not guests.

1. **Approval of minutes from last meeting**

Renee Martin sent the meeting minutes via email. Tom Martin wanted to table the minutes until next time to further review past meeting minutes.

1. **Open issues**
   * 1. Town Square Revitalization:

Dave Leonetti is coming tomorrow to talk about his role as architect for the town square revitalization project, what questions do we have for him?

1. Phases and payment? Initial contract/cost structure for continued retainage fees for follow-ups.
2. Hourly fee?
3. Will help with grants and financing.
4. Will he be contractor and oversee the whole project/additional fees?
5. How much is the topography survey? (III C)
6. Sketches/Visual specs?
7. Community meetings?
8. How many options will Dave give us bid wise?
   1. Website:

Need a new zoning PDF (coming soon)

Josh Poffenbarger to do Facebook page for the city. The plan is to have a website ready to go by the end of February. Renee Martin is to email, Jennifer from Business Builders, to stress our unhappiness on some of the content of the webpage and see what can be done to bring it up to par. Need to get Facebook page on website.

We are still undecided on what to do with Phil Bertoni and his website that was supposed to be merged into the new city website and wasn’t. Bertoni wants his website back but want city to pay for the yearly fees, but he wouldn’t charge for being webmaster. Bertoni is ok with his site being a history site and is willing to listen to how to change his site for the better. We will contact Bertoni once we hear back from Business Builder and have a better idea on what can be done.

* 1. Business Development

Shaun Tyson talked to Shaun Park (Winchester). He is willing to help us with setting up the co-op here in town as much as he can.

The next meeting for them is Feb. 9, 9:30 a.m.

Tom Martin is to meet with Dirk McCormick tomorrow. Dirk McCormick is a main developer for Scheels originally from Chestnut.

* 1. Grant Requests

We received more information regarding Jules Flower Shop Grant request.

Shaun Tyson made a motion to approve Jules grant request for

Time Emrick seconded.

There was a discussion on which Goal the grant fit under. It fits Goal # 1.

Roll Call Vote: Tom Martin-yes, Shaun Tyson-yes, Tim Emrick-yes, Renee Martin-yes

Note: It appears there is a page missing from when the minutes were scanned into computer. The document starts again here.

Buy his property on the square.

Do we need parameters for executive session? Need directions on grants. Bobell will ask the city lawyer to advise.

Community Grants: New fiscal year starts June 1, 2019. Non-profit investment group-5% return Prairieland investments. We need to prepare for the future and make good decisions on investing money.

Bylaws review-Change ordinance to 7 will go in front of city council at next meeting.

Coordinator:

Have final copy of job description. It is on the city website and has been sent via email to various people and newspapers.

Coordinator cannot be contracted and will be a city employee. Will be paid out of the Wind Farm Money. Part-time employees are not entitled to benefits. City Council needs to be made aware of the Coordinator job.

**New business**

Visitor Center: (Atlanta, Elkhart, Mt. Pulaski)

Bill Thomas, Allen Schaal, Sue Shaffenacker and Tom Martin had a meeting to discus the idea of a Visitors Center to be held at the museum. Logan County Tourism is not on board yet, but once they are, they should provide signage, a television, brochure, and training for all volunteers.

There will be a one-year commitment to see how it goes over.

Museum is seeking assistance for the visitor center. Their annual expenses are $9k a year. The Museum is open April to October each year.

There is no doubt that the EDPB is all on board.

Shaun Tyson made a motion to give the Mt. Pulaski Historical Society (Museum) $2,000 now and then $2,000 later for Visitor Center Rental Space contingent on the Logan County Tourism Bureau approval and contribution to the Visitors Center.

Tim Emrick seconded.

Discussion-Money to be taken from the Wind Turbine Funds.

Roll Call Vote: Tom Martin-yes, Tim Emrick-yes, Shaun Tyson-yes, Renee Martin-yes

Motion passed.

b) Shaun Tyson brought up the TIF fund that ends in 2022. Could develop the area down by the grocery stores. Would have to start over to have another TIF. TIF diverts taxes from various places. No action taken on the topic.

VI. **Adjournment**

Tyson moved to adjourn the meeting. Renee Martin seconded. All were in favor. Tom Martin adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Renee Martin.