**Minutes**

*The mission of the Mount Pulaski Economic Development and Planning Board is to improve the quality of life and create a shared prosperity in our community by retaining, sustaining, and enhancing existing businesses and community organizations, attracting, and developing new businesses and improving and upgrading infrastructure.*

**Date: 10/2/2024**

**Time: 6:15 pm**

**Location: 124 S Washington St, Mt Pulaski IL**

**Meeting Type: Business**

1. Call to Order: Andrew called the meeting to order at 6:18 pm.
2. Roll Call: Present-Andrew Meister, Erin Wyss, Tracy Pulliam, Doug Johnson, and administrator Deanna Howard. Absent-Corey Leonard and Benjamin Butler
3. Introduction of guests: Jason Spang and Bill Thomas
4. Approval of Consent Agenda-payments and minutes: **Erin motioned to approve the payments and minutes. The motion was seconded by Doug. Roll call vote: Andrew-aye, Erin-aye, Tracy-aye, Doug-aye. Motion was approved.**
5. Treasurer Report: Deanna presented the treasurer report. **Tracy motioned to approve the treasurer report and Doug seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Andrew-aye, Erin-aye, Tracy-aye, Doug-aye. Motion was approved.**
6. Old Business
	1. Project Updates
		1. Dilapidated Property Program: Renamed the Property Enhancement Program. The minutes from the previous meeting summarized the discussion setting the parameters of the program as follows for the 24/25 fiscal year budget of $20,000. EDPB will reimburse up to 50% of cost not to exceed $5,000 until budgeted funds have been spent. The property must be within the city limits of Mt Pulaski. Each property owner may submit one application per fiscal year from June 1 to May 31. Project must be started and/or completed in the fiscal year of the application and follow all policies and procedures outlined on the application.
		Bill suggested that the first principal should be to target houses that the city has identified and already contacted. He will have a zoom meeting with Erin and Tracy to establish the process.
		2. Market on the Hill: Deanna reported that Longview Community Bank secured a grant for MOTH for $33,000 and that prior to that Kaitlin had reached out asking the boards plans to continue support at the market for this fiscal year. Andrew suggested inviting the GM and board to the next EDPB meeting.
		3. Frazier Park: There are no updates on Frazier Park, but Dee will update the city council with the amount of the budget.
		4. FarmFed Co-op: The city council only approved half of the recommended $40,000 for the application from the business district tax funds. The EDPB members discussed this application and decided that it was completed by the city council. The FarmFed Co-op may submit additional applications as needed but the EDPB members would like to know the cash position of FarmFed Co-op when an application is submitted.
7. Logan County Economic Development Partnership, NFP donation request: Bill spoke of the contribution his organization has made in the community in the past and his wish to continue to guide the EDPB in their quest to become more proactive. He suggested dedicating 15 minutes a meeting over the course of 2-4 meetings to break it up into chunks and focused on some very specific things that the board can work on.
The board members discussed the contribution request later in the meeting and **Erin motioned to give a $5,000 contribution to the LCEDP. The motion was seconded by Tracy.**  **Roll call vote: Andrew-aye, Erin-aye, Tracy-aye, Doug-aye. Motion was approved. The funds will come out of the community partnership budget item.**
	* 1. Community Letter: Deanna presented the letter to the board
8. New Business
	1. Community Letter-List: The board discussed possible organizations to send the community letter to.
	2. Proactive projects: Keep this on the agenda for ideas.
	3. Jason Sprang-CUSD 23 sports construction project application. Jason discussed the project to bring an all-weather track to Mt Pulaski. There is already an agreement to bring the Logan County Track Meet to this location every year. The football/cheerleader co-op with Unity Christian will bring football games to this location. The site will be gated with signs posted to encourage use by public when not in use for an event. He discussed the various stages of the plans.
	Andrew discussed that this falls into the board’s wish to encourage sports tourism in the community and Bill Thomas agrees that this is a great opportunity for the community. He offered to meet with a group including someone from the Business organization, from the EDPB, and the athletic director to facilitate an initial set of ideas on how Mt Pulaski can best leverage sports tourism with this new asset.
	Jason explained that there is not a specific monetary request for this project and that any amount or type of help is appreciated.
	The board came back to this discussion while covering new business and determined not to act on this at this time. Andy will talk to Jason to determine a way to help in a way that best suits their needs hopefully in a way that shows support from the EDPB. It could be that the EDPB helps support the advertising as part of the sports tourism.
	4. Cavestani-roof replacement application: This is preserving a building on the square, and it affects two businesses on the square and was determined it would fall under the budget line item of the Business District Grant for Business Retention, Sustainment and Enhancement. **Tracy motioned to approve the remove and replace damaged roof not to exceed $5,000 from the Business District Funds. Erin seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Andrew-aye, Erin-aye, Tracy-aye, Doug-aye. Motion was approved.**
	5. Logan County Business Retention and Expansion Committee. Deanna was invited to be on the committee. The board agreed with her using EDPB hours for her involvement reporting back to the EDPB members monthly and will determine how beneficial it could be for the community.
	6. Marketing, information materials. Amanda at MOTH was requesting a list of grants available from the city because of the questions she has received at the market. Dee will give her a copy of the grant that people can look at and have her direct questions to EDPB admin.
9. Other Business/Non-Agenda items: Thank you card from Fall Festival Committee. Mic Cyrulik has talked to Doug and Dee about the building at the cemetery.
10. Executive Session: none
11. Next Meeting 11/6/2024 6:15 pm
12. Adjournment: **Tracy motioned to adjourn the meeting and Erin seconded the motion. All present members voted “aye” and the meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm**