**Mt. Pulaski Economic Development and Planning Board**

*The mission of the Mt. Pulaski Economic Development and Planning Board is to improve the quality of life and create a share 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: May 27th, 2020**

**Meeting Location: 124 South Washington St, Mt. Pulaski, IL 62548**

**Meeting Type: Special Meeting**

**Meeting Minutes (recreated by Deanna Howard for website)**

1. **Call to order**

Tom Martin Called to order the special meeting of the Mt. Pulaski Economic Development and Planning Board at 5:43pm on May 27th, 2020 at the Courthouse Foundation Office

1. **Roll Call**

Lorah Hoe conducted roll call. The following persons were present: Tom Martin, Erin Wyss, Andrew Meister, Hillary cherry, Jim Birge and Tyler White. Lorah Hoe (administrative aide)

Guests: None

Absent: Deron Powell and Matt Bobell (city council representative).

1. **Introduction of guests:**

None

1. **Review of COVID-19 Relief Grant Applications**

1)Stewart’s Carpet Center did not specify an amount for the grant application. Construction businesses have been deemed essential during the Covid-19 crisis but it is unclear how it may have effected Stewart’s business from continuing work as usual. The board discussed how they need information from Stewart’s application to be clarified and some additional information before a decision can be made. **Tyler White made a motion to table the application until more information is acquired, 2nd by Erin Wyss, all in favor and motion passes.** Lorah Hoe will ask Dennis to verify that the time frame of Stewart’s loss of income was in fact May 15th to June 15th. A break down of Stewart’s $860.00 from monthly fees. And why stewart had not applied for other types of aid.

2)Industry Fitness is asking for $3,500.00. The gym is limited in how it can reopen. These limitations will effect his business for some time to come and it is uncertain how it will affect his business in the long-run. **Andrew Meister made a motion to approve $2,000.00 from the community fund for emergency COVID-19 relief, 2nd by Hillary Cherry. Roll Call Vote: Tom Martin-Yea, Hillary Cherry-Yea, Tyler White-Yea, Jim Birge-Yea, Erin Wyss, Andrew Meister-Yea**, **Deron Powell-Yea. Motion Passes.**

There is $14,850.00 remaining in the Covid-19 Relief Grant Budget. The board discussed how this might come back in the fall and affect businesses again. The board will ask Dave Meister, Michell Hagenbuch, Sue Wakeman, and Julie Mason to attend the June 6th meeting and give the board feedback on the effectiveness of the Covid-19 Relief Grants. The board would like to know if the program has helped. The current projection of the business. If the aid was enough to make a difference. And also, if the businesses had any suggestions for our application.

1. **Chairman’s Report**

**Fast Track Grant, DECO** will require the EDPB to hold an open meeting on June 10th to inform the public about where the funds for the Town Square Revitalization Project will come from. We will inform the newspaper, Facebook, and the city website of the open meeting. Hillary will check if the Hilltop club will be available to hold this event

**CEDS application**/grant writing bill from Dennis Fief was $3,000.00 total.

**The second floor above city Hall** will not meet the needs of the EDPB. The EDPB plans on staying at the Courthouse Foundation Office to conduct their business for the remainder of 2020 and into 2021.

1. **Next Meeting-June 6, 2020**

Jim Birge will not be at the next meeting in person but will be able to call in. Tyler White will not be able to attend the next meeting.

**Adjournment**

**Jim Birge made a motion to adjourn at 6:23, seconded by Tyler White, all in favor and motion passed.**