

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

February 4, 2014
Meeting Summary

Chair Beard called the meeting to order at 1:02 PM. All members were present except Gorton, Akers, Lawless and Farmer

1. October 15, 2013 Committee Summary

On a motion by Clark second Ellinger the summary of the 10.15.13 Economic Development Committee of the Whole meeting was approved unanimously.

2. Food Truck Review

Beard stated that since the affected Councilmembers were not in attendance it may be best to defer this item.

Andrew Southers, 3292 Sweet Clover Lane spoke in favor of the food trucks.

A motion was made by Scutchfield second Clarke to extend the food truck ordinance for 1- year.

After discussion the motion was withdrawn.

3. JOBS Program Review

Wes Holbrook and Kevin Atkins gave the presentation. They discussed purpose of the program, the Investment Board, policies and governance, including minimum criteria, taxpayer protection, the application, evaluation process and compliance.

Henson asked about the median salary requirements. She stated that a firm bringing low wage jobs to the County would not be eligible for assistance. She asked that this criterion be re examined as lower wage jobs are useful.

Mossotti commented on the claw back provisions, the “but for” certification and collateral requirements.

Kay discussed the difference between average and median income indices. He asked that both average and median be included in the application process.

In response to a question from Kay, Holbrook stated that the average wages was meant to be the median wage.

Scutchfield discussed the need for a transparent process. She also discussed outreach to date to potential businesses. In response Holbrook stated that they have received a few inquiries but hasn't started an outreach program because guidelines had not been approved. Atkins stated that they have contacted a few recruiting firms to discuss the program.

Myers discussed the average and median wages and provided an example for the jobs created.

Clarke stated that we might want to use industry standards rather than median wages.

A motion was made by Clarke second Ellinger to approve the JOBS program guidelines. The motion failed by a 3-8 vote (Clarke, Beard & Kay-YES; Ellinger, Ford, Lane, Mossotti, Scutchfield, Stinnett, Myers & Henson-NO.

4. Food Truck Review (cont.)

A motion was made by Lane second Clarke to extend the food truck ordinance through December 31, 2014.

After discussion the motion was withdrawn.

A motion was made by Myers second Ellinger to table the issue until a special Committee meeting is held to discuss this issue. Motion passed 8-3 (Ellinger, Ford, Mossotti, Scutchfield, Beard, Henson, Kay and Myers-YES; Lane, Clarke and Stinnett-NO.

5. Old Courthouse Renovation Update

Fugate provided the update. Fugate discussed efforts to date including leasing concept, potential sources of funding and present and future actions to stabilize and revitalize the building.

6. Partner Agency Reporting System

The first quarter FY 14 data from the economic development partner agencies was provided

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 PM.