



City of Pekin

Economic Development Advisory Committee

Minutes

October 5, 2020

12:00 p.m. Pekin City Hall

Members Present: Mack Cakora, John Campbell, Keith Dunkelbarger, Buster Hanley, Drew Leman, Danielle Owens, Earl Riley, Pat Taphorn, Amy McCoy, Dennis Short

Others Attendees: Mayor Luft, City Manager Rothert, Matt Fick, David Bess, Chris Setti

1.0 Meeting called to order by Mack Cakora at 12:02 PM.

2.0 Motion made by Keith Dunkelbarger, seconded by Mark Luft, to approve the September meeting minutes. Motion carried.

3.0 New Business: Chris Setti, CEO of the Greater Peoria Economic Development Council, gave a presentation on his organization and the various programs they administer and monitor. Mr. Setti explained that the GPEDC serves a number of counties in Central Illinois and they help to lead business attraction and retention efforts for the region. The EDC also assists with workforce solutions, innovations, startups, and rural economic development for the small communities. He discussed how the current pandemic has changed a lot of companies views on sourcing materials and labor from outside the country due to increased lead times and costs, and explained that many of these companies are now looking to expand or relocate to the States.

4.0 City Economic Development Updates: Mark Rothert informed the Committee that the new Tax Increment Financing (TIF) adoption timeline was scheduled for early January 2021 and that the Business Development District (BDD) adoption timeline had been pushed back. Council had expressed an interest to package the BDD adoption with an increase in the City's Hotel/Motel Tax as well as with a presentation on the Levy, which is anticipated to decrease as a result of the new revenues being realized by the BDD.

Matt Fick gave an update on the Hamm's renovation project and noted that since it was announced he had been contacted by multiple business owners in the downtown expressing an interest to apply for similar TIF funding. He stated that Salon Renaissance and The Collector Zone had already applied for funding and their requests would soon be sent to the City Council for consideration.

5.0 Round Table Updates were provided.

6.0 There were no public questions or comments.

7.0 Motion by Dennis Short, seconded by Mark Luft to adjourn the meeting at 1:09 PM, motion carried.