



City of Pekin

Economic Development Advisory Committee

Minutes

October 4, 2021

12:00 p.m. Pekin City Hall

Members Present: Cady Campbell, Drew Leman, Keith Dunkelbarger, Tiffany White, Earl Riley, Dennis Short, Pat Taphorn (remote after meeting had started)

Others Attendees: Matt Fick, Mark Rothert, Todd Dugan

1.0 Meeting called to order by Mayor Luft at 12:00 PM.

2.0 Minutes were deferred due to a lack of quorum at the start of the meeting.

3.0 New Business:

3.1 Todd Dugan, Pekin Municipal Airport Manager, gave a presentation on the history of the airport and some of the planned expansions. He explained that the airport receives a certain annual allotment of federal funding that can be used for planned improvements. The airport has made a lot of upgrades to the facilities runway and lighting system in the past years so it was felt the annual allotment could be obligated for vertical construction projects. Todd explained the need for more hangar space and more space to allow some of the existing businesses at the airport to expand. The City will also look for conventional financing to help fill the funding gaps for construction. It was also noted that the airport had recently been recognized as the Illinois General Aviation Airport of the Year for 2020.

3.2 Mark Rothert, Pekin City Manager, explained that the Central Business District Tax Increment Financing District expires at the end of 2021 and that the City was going to attempt to get it extended an additional 12 years, which requires approval by the State. Mayor/Representative Luft stated that he was a sponsor of the bill and felt confident he could get the support to have it passed. The Committee made a recommendation that the City proceed with securing funding and support the airport expansion initiative.

4.0 City Economic Development Updates: Matt Fick, Community Development Director, updated the committee on various projects including a new Mexican restaurant, a new Panda Express, a truck driving school and the potential for new multifamily apartments.

5.0 Round Table Updates were provided.

6.0 There were no public questions or comments.

7.0 Meeting adjourned at 1:15 PM.