

CITY OF SAINT PETER, MINNESOTA
Economic Development Authority
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – April 23, 2020
Saint Peter Community Center – Governors Room

Call to Order

The meeting of the Saint Peter Economic Development Authority (EDA) was called to order by Community Development Director Russ Wille at approximately 12:14 pm. Roll call was taken with Dunn, Brad DeVos, Ed Johnson, and Bob Southworth in attendance. Mike Favre and Cory Abels were unable to attend. Community Development Director Russ Wille and Administrative Secretary were also in attendance.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Dunn, seconded by Johnson to approve the agenda as presented. With all voting in favor, the motion was carried and the agenda approved.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by DeVos to approve the March 26, 2020 minutes as presented. All members voting aye, the minutes were approved.

CBD/ADA Accessibility Enhancement Grants

Wille stated that the City has received three applications from CBD building owners applying for the Central Business District/Accessibility Enhancement (CBD/ADA) loan.

All three businesses submitted quotes from at least two vendors and each propose the installation an automatic door opening system.

Wille reviewed the terms of the loan program. He stated that the City will finance improvements in the form of a forgivable loan available at 0% rate of interest. The building owner will be responsible to maintain and repair the improvements to maintain accessibility. The loan proceeds will be “forgiven” at a rate of 1/15th per year.

Dunn asked if the Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) has approved the projects.

Wille stated that the HPC only approves exterior improvements and these proposed projects are hardware related.

A motion was made by Dunn, seconded by Johnson to introduce Resolution 2020-002 entitled, “A Resolution Recommending That The City Council Approve Central Business District/Accessibility Improvement Grants To Kind Vet Clinic, Swedish Kontur And Riley-Tanis & Associates”. All members voting aye, the Resolution was passed and adopted.

Reports

COVID-19 Micro Loan Program – Thirty-nine loans have been distributed in the amount \$351,000. There are 4 additional loans pending submittal.

COVID-19 Business Updates - Wille stated that there has been a request to add birthing centers to the eligible roster. He said he has also received requests from dentists and other medical service providers.

Johnson said he was in favor of approving additional businesses to the eligible roster.

Dunn agreed that the purpose of the EDA is to help support businesses as well as bring businesses to town.

Southworth also expressed his support.

DeVos agreed and said that COVID-19 has had an impact on medical services. A motion was made by DeVos, seconded by Johnson to recommend that the City Council approval for the addition of birthing centers to the roster of eligible businesses. All members voting aye, the motion carried.

Loan Deferral Requests - Wille stated the he has contacted businesses that currently have a revolving loan with the City. He gave them the option of deferring there loan payment until August 1, 2020. Five businesses have opted to defer their loan payment until August 1, 2020.

Adjourn

With no further business before the EDA, a motion was made by Southworth, seconded by Johnson, to adjourn. With all members voting in favor, the motion was approved and the meeting was adjourned at 12:37 pm.