

Minutes

Laurel Urban Renewal Agency (LURA)

May 21st, 2018 City Hall Conference Chambers

The meeting was called to order by Judy Goldsby. Roll Call/ Attendance: Quorum of voting members present: Judy Goldsby, Don Smarsh, Dean Rankin. Non-voting members: Steve Solberg. City Staff: Kurt Markegard. Big Sky EDA: Dianne Lehm. Laurel Chamber of Commerce: Marcia Hafner.

Introductions: None

Approval of the minutes from the previous meeting: Dean made the motion to accept the minutes and Don seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Old Business:

- a. Large Grant Application F18 Update- Kurt informed the committee about the grant review process and how the Mayor has asked the City Attorney to review the grants to see if they meet the criteria allowed in State Statute. Don talked about project criteria in order to award grant funds from the submitted applications. Dean also expressed that determining what projects meet the criteria is getting complicated. Dean stated that the projects in the large grant requests are great projects and due to the success of getting the word out there are more applications being submitted. Judy said it would be great to keep giving out the funds for projects that have been submitted. Don stated that many of the projects in the submitted applications are already completed or have started. Don asked about the timeline for finding out about the large grants and Judy stated legal has it and we will not know how long that will take.
- b. Grants Pending- Steve asked whatever happens to the Technical Assistance Grants funds that have been given out. Don stated that some of the projects will never happen because what is identified in the technical assistance reports that they have funded end up costing too much to complete the proposed projects. Marcia asked about having the applicants present a report about their project once completed. Judy stated that this was added to the grants this year and we should have the project sponsors report back to this committee. Kurt stated that the technical assistance grant for the King Koin Laundry was being used and the new owner of the building has received a building permit to renovate the structure to reopen the laundry business.

- c. Planner Vacancy Update- Kurt stated that the Mayor will be posting for a department head type position for the Planning Department to garner more interest in the position. The posting for the Planning position should be out in the next month or so.

Discussion that is old business but was not on agenda- Dean asked about the bondable project for Railroad streets. Judy stated that the grain elevators need to be taken down to make the intersection better. Kurt informed the committee that he has been asked to look at the downtown streets for a bondable project. Many of the downtown street need to have major repairs. Den asked what the next process was and Judy said that the Mayor needs to give some direction on what projects he would like to see completed. Dean said a list should be made of what projects need to be done and they make a priority list. The committee discussed a list should be completed so everyone knows what the projects are and what needs to be fixed.

New Business: None

Reports:

- a. City Administration: None
- b. City Planner: None
- c. City Treasure: Discussion took place about monthly reports not being submitted to the Committee
- d. Big Sky EDA: Dianne told the committee about the High Plains Business Alliance meeting. They had 60 attendees.

Public Comment on Non Agenda Topics: None

Next Meeting: June 18th in the City Hall Conference Chambers

Adjournment: Don motioned for adjournment and Dean seconded it. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 12:00pm.

Respectfully submitted

Kurt Markegard, Public Works Director