

JOBS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: January 28, 2019
Place of Meeting: Marion City Hall

Chairman Jason Schaber called the Meeting of the Committee for Jobs & Economic Development to Order at 6:47 pm and requested that the Clerk call the roll.

ROLL CALL:

Present -- Jason Schaber, Ayers Ratliff; Member(s) Absent were: Kevin Norris

MINUTES:

Mr. Ratliff made a motion to approve minutes from 01/07/2019 and 09/18/2018; Mr. Schaber 2nd. Roll Call: Ayes – Mr. Schaber, Mr. Ratliff.

Minutes of 01/07/2019/ and 09/18/2018 Approved (2-0)

NEW BUSINESS:

Item 1. ORDINANCE RE-DECLARING THE CITY OF MARION'S SUPPORT FOR CAN DO! IN ORDER TO CONTINUE THE ECONOMIC PROSPERITY OF THE GREATER MARION AREA, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Gus Comstock, CAN DO!, expressed his appreciation to the city for their board participation, including Mayor Schertzer, Kevin Norris, and Gary Sims. He provided the committee with a power point report. The board consists of 22 positions, 16 of which are filled. There has been about a half a billion dollars in investment in Marion in the past four years, including Poet (\$125 m), Nucor (\$85 mil), and US Yachiyo (\$40 m). Several smaller projects are going on. They have trademarked the phrase "America's Workforce Development Capital". They feel that Marion has the resources to train workers.

Mr. Ratliff made a motion to recommend legislation to council; Mr. Schaber 2nd. Roll Call: Ayes – Mr. Schaber, Mr. Ratliff.

Legislation recommended to council (2-0)

Item 2. ORDINANCE RE-DECLARING THE CITY OF MARION'S SUPPORT FOR DOWNTOWN MARION, INC., INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO FINANCIAL SUPPORT IN ORDER TO CONTINUE THE COMMUNITY'S EFFORTS TO REVITALIZE THE DOWNTOWN AREA, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Beth Meadows, Chair of Downtown Marion Inc., spoke to the committee and thanked them for their support of downtown revitalization efforts. She has no written report, but states that one will be sent by email. Some highlights from 2018 include: a number of businesses have opened or expanded in the downtown area with more expected, they worked on the cultural corridor project, they continued working with other entities (including Visitors Convention Bureau, Regional Planning, Marion Public Library, Marion Public Health, Greater Ohio Policy

Committee, etc.), they hold business owners meetings on a regular basis, they calculated that more than \$3.5 million dollars has been reinvested in community with downtown projects and created more than 50 jobs downtown, and they sponsored a number of events. They have a heightened social media presence on Facebook and Instagram. They plan to do more marketing and promotion of downtown in the coming year, as well as focus on downtown beautification projects. They do not know how many people live downtown, but they are trying to compile some current numbers. They are aware that there are some building owners who have a waiting list.

Mr. Ratliff made a motion to recommend legislation to council; Mr. Schaber 2nd. Roll Call: Ayes – Mr. Schaber, Mr. Ratliff.

Legislation recommended to council (2-0)

OTHER BUSINESS:

Both items will be on the agenda for the 02/11/2019 regular council meeting.

With no further business to come before this Committee, Mr. Schaber adjourned the meeting at 6:59PM.

Chairman Schaber

Clerk of Council

JOBS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: November 5, 2018

Place of Meeting: Marion City Hall

Chairman Jason Schaber called the Meeting of the Committee for Jobs & Economic Development to Order at 7:19PM and requested that the Clerk call the roll.

ROLL CALL:

Present -- Jason Schaber, Kevin Norris; Member(s) Absent were: Ayers Ratliff.

MINUTES:

Mr. Norris made a motion to approved minutes of 09/18/2018; Mr. Schaber 2nd. Roll Call: Ayes – Mr. Schaber, Mr. Norris, Nays -- none

Minutes of 09/18/2018 approved (2-0)

NEW BUSINESS:

Item 1. ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH CERNY'S INDUSTRIAL CONTRACTING INC. AND THE MARION COUNTY FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS, INC FOR THE WOMEN'S CLUB HOME RAMP PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mrs. Warr-Cummings, Regional Planning, explained that they have bid this out twice. Initial bids were two high and they rebid. Women's Club Home did provide a letter that they will provide additional funding to accept the alternative (some grading by the ramp).

Mr. Norris made a motion to recommend legislation to council; Mr. Schaber 2nd. Roll Call: Ayes – Mr. Schaber, Mr. Norris.

Legislation recommended to council (2-0)

Item 2. ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH H & H ENVIRONMENTAL FOR ASBESTOS TESTING SERVICE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mrs. Warr-Cummings, Regional Planning, explained that in order for the demolition, as well as Sawyer Ludwig Park (demolition of Rose Cottage), she needed the ability to hire an asbestos survey to be done. H and H also has the ability to do the abatement after the survey, as needed. Structures include: 400 block of W. Center Street (corner of Park Blvd.), couple on N. Vine and McWilliams, and Rose Cottage.

Mr. Norris made a motion to recommend legislation to council; Mr. Schaber 2nd. Roll Call: Ayes – Mr. Schaber, Mr. Norris.

Legislation recommended to council (2-0)

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mrs. Warr-Cummings, Regional Planning, offered some additional updates.

- Sun Dance has come down. Change order was completed because of asbestos.
- Downtown developers want to use revolving loan fund. There is about \$10,000 left. Alex Sheridan and Luke Henry have requested to use it on some of the South Main Street properties that they are developing. She could right up ordinance and contract if needed. They need to consider whether they want to use it as a loan or a grant. If it is done as a loan, the city auditor acts as the collection agent.
- She has been approached about submitting an application on behalf of the city or downtown Marion as a plan for South Main Street that would include street lighting and founders park. They could possibly apply to Rotary or Community Foundation for engineering to look at updating the streetscape.

With no further business to come before this Committee, Mr. Schaber adjourned the meeting at 7:28PM.

Chairman Schaber

Clerk of Council