



MINUTES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MONDAY, MARCH 28, 2022 – 4:00 P.M.

VIA ZOOM

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bricker called the meeting to order at 4:14 pm.

ATTENDANCE

Chairman Bricker, Committee Members Knight, Newman, Spencer, and Potts.

Also present were Council Liaison Jones, Councilmember Richardson, Director Jensen, Director Rogalsky, Planner Arrasmith, Economic Development Manager Wallner and Economic Development Specialist Follett.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Bricker presented the agenda for approval. There were no changes or additions.

COMMITTEE MEMBER SPENCER MOVED AND COMMITTEE MEMBER KNIGHT SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. January 24, 2022 Minutes

Chairman Bricker introduced the meeting minutes from January 24, 2022. There were no changes or discussion.

COMMITTEE MEMBER SPENCER MOVED AND COMMITTEE MEMBER NEWMAN SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 24, 2022. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Bricker opened the public comment period at 4:19 p.m. Having no one request time to address the committee, Chairman Bricker closed the public comment period at 4:19 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS

2. EDC Training: Surplus and Sale or Lease of City-Owned Property

Chairman Bricker recognized Planner Arrasmith to present the training topic. Mr. Arrasmith gave a presentation, including a Power Point, outlining the process and requirements the

city must use to determine if property is surplus to city needs and questions/information that should be considered for both surplus actions and PSA recommendations. At the conclusion of his presentation, Mr. Arrasmith answered questions.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

3. Proposed Surplus of City-Owned Property, West of George Washington Way (Public Works)

Chairman Bricker recognized Public Works Director Rogalsky to present the proposal to the Committee. Mr. Rogalsky showed a map depicting the proposed surplus area adjacent to the sand filtration water basins. He also provided some history on the ownership of the adjacent land (WSU) and their request for a land swap of wetland area south of the basins for this section along George Washington Way. At the conclusion of his presentation, committee members asked questions and discussed the merits of the proposal.

COMMITTEE MEMBER KNIGHT MOVED AND COMMITTEE MEMBER NEWMAN SECONDED THE MOTION TO RECOMMEND COUNCIL APPROVE THE SURPLUS OF LAND ALONG GEORGE WASHINGTON WAY, AS DEPICTED IN THE PROVIDED MAP. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

4. Business License Reserve Fund (BLRF) Application – Visit Tri-Cities

Chairman Bricker recognized Economic Development Manager Wallner to present the request for BLRF funding. Ms. Wallner gave a quick overview and introduced Mike Novakovich, CEO of Visit Tri-Cities. Mr. Novakovich spoke about the partnership with WSU Tri-Cities for their new certificate programs for businesses. He provided committee members with information on how the program is proposed to work, and how it will benefit Richland businesses and residents. At the conclusion of his presentation, members asked questions about how they will track and report on benefits.

COMMITTEE MEMBER NEWMAN MOVED AND COMMITTEE MEMBER SPENCER SECONDED THE MOTION TO RECOMMEND COUNCIL APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR \$10,000 FROM THE BUSINESS LICENSE RESERVE FUND FOR THE VISIT TRI-CITIES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

5. Proposed Surplus of City-Owned Property Located at 350 Thayer Drive

Chairman Bricker recognized Planner Arrasmith to give the staff report for the proposed surplus. Mr. Arrasmith showed a map of the property and gave the background, ownership history and reasons the City no longer needed to keep this property in its inventory. He also noted that the Committee was being asked to consider three options for a motion to recommend the surplus action to Council.

COMMITTEE MEMBER NEWMAN MOVED AND COMMITTEE MEMBER SPENCER SECONDED THE MOTION TO RECOMMEND COUNCIL APPROVE THE SURPLUS OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 350 THAYER DRIVE AND DIRECT STAFF TO MARKET

**THE PROPERTY FOR THE SALE, THOROUGH A NEGOTIATION PROCESS
PURSEUANT TO RMC 3.06.040(B). MOTION PASSED 5-0.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Several members requested a copy of the training slide deck and voiced their happiness to being back in-person for meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Bricker adjourned the meeting at 5:17 p.m.

Prepared by: *Lynne Follett*
Lynne Follett, Economic Development Specialist

Reviewed by: *Mallner*
Mandy Wallner, Economic Development Manager

Approved by: *Brad Bricker*
Brad Bricker, Chairman