

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by EDC Chairman Kevin Emerick.

ROLL CALL: EDC MEMBERS PRESENT: Brad Bafaro; Tim Budelman; Steve Krautscheid; Rick Lafave; Jim Langstraat; Alfredo Moreno; Tom Raabe; Guy Storms

EDC MEMBERS ABSENT (EXCUSED): Jill Craig; Rob Langford; Juanita Lint; Mark Nakajima; Jennifer Prickett; Jonathan Yawson

EDC MEMBERS ABSENT (UNEXCUSED):

OTHERS PRESENT: Manson Boyd; Amy Bynum; Sabrina VanArtsdalen

COUNCIL LIAISON: Councilor Timothy Rippe

STAFF PRESENT: Shannon Reynolds, Admin Specialist

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:

None

3. APPROVAL OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MINUTES:

No minutes to approve

4. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS:

None

5. BUSINESS:

A. Chamber of Commerce Update, Juanita Lint:

Not present to report

B. City Council Update, Councilor Rippe:

The Economic Development Annual Report was presented to the Council by Jeff King on 9/29/21. Council voted on electric rate increase of 3.5%, this will reflect on the Jan. 2022 billing cycle. Rates were not increased last year due to economic pressures of Covid-19. The consultants had proposed a 4.6% increase, but the Council reduced the rate increase to reflect the economic pressure of Covid-19. Jeff King's position has been posted and we have received a number of applicants. Due to HR and Staffing shortages his position may not be filled until the end of November. We need to begin recruitment for a new Chair and Vice Chair for 2022. A quarterly Town Meeting was held on Oct. 30th. The topic was Community Development. Presentations by the Community Development Department, Forest Grove School District and Paul Downey, Finance Director. There was approximately 25 attendees. Next Monday the Urban Renewal Agency Board will be meeting to discuss the status of Site B, for a possible grocery store and affordable housing units.

C. Presentation: Worksystem Inc.

Sabrina VanArtsdalen and Manson Boyd presented today on behalf of Worksystem Inc. Sabrina specializes in Healthcare and Manson specializes in Manufacturing and Technology. Worksystem Inc. helps people get back to work, specializing in low income and diverse populations in Washington Co. Worksystem provides training and apprenticeships. They are running a Pilot program in Portland called "Here for Portland" that provides skills and training to get adults back into the workforce.

D. Presentation: Greater Portland, Inc.

Amy Bynum presented today on behalf of Greater Portland Inc. Greater Portland Inc. is a Regional Economic Group focusing on recruiting new companies into the greater Portland areas. They are a full service recruit shop specializing in new companies and competitive expansions. Amy presented a PowerPoint on Site selection and provided information on perspectives and trends.

E. Presentation: Norris-Stevens

Tim Budelman presented an update for Commercial Real Estate on the Westside and Sunset Corridor. Norris-Stevens manages multifamily, commercial and retail office spaces. They are a full service brokerage firm. Rent growth is on an upward trend and rent per square foot is still increasing.

6. STAFF AND BOARD MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS:

Chairman Kevin Emerick notes that there has been conflict with having the EDC meeting on the first Thursday of the month. He suggests moving the meeting to the 2nd Thursday for the 2022 calendar year.

7. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING:

Chairman Kevin Emerick announced that there is a good chance there will not be a meeting for November 2021.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Emerick adjourned the meeting at 11:31 a.m. by consensus.

Respectfully submitted by:

Michelle Davis
Administrative Specialist
City of Forest Grove

Approved by the Forest Grove EDC:

Date: 5/19/2022

