

Coordinating Council
April 22, 2021
Minutes

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Jan Rise at 6:05 pm.

Roll Call (Present):

Northwest: Jim Trelewski, Larry Elliott

Midland/Salzburg: Steve Kent, Richard Hembling

Columbus Ave:

South end: Forrest Robinson, Gary Paveglio

Northeast: Jan Rise, Melody Remington, Doug Rise

Also, Present: Shelli Thurston – Economic Development, Debbie Kiesel – Community Development, Matt Meisel – Community Policing, Brandon Murphy – Community Policing

Minutes:

The minutes from the January 23, 2020 and April 30, 2020 meetings were reviewed. It was moved and supported to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

No public comment.

New Business:

Annual Budget Fiscal Year 2022

Shelli Thurston gave a presentation on the TIFA Funds as follows:

278 Fund – Midland Street TIFA

Revenues: Estimates presented for tax capture, local community stabilization share, and interest amounts

Expenses: Estimates presented for ground maintenance, indirect admin, fees for debt service, contributions to fund balance, contribution for mowing of the Surath Site, and debt service principal and interest

Question regarding location of Surath Site – It is located at the base of the Liberty Bridge.

Question regarding reserve money – Fund balance, not shown on the budget worksheet, is approximately \$130,000

281 Fund – Marquette TIFA

Revenues: Estimates presented for tax capture, local community stabilization share, interest, and allocated fund balance

Expenses: Salaries, attorney fees, insurance and bonds, land improvements, street construction for remaining portions of North Johnson Street project, utilities, ground maintenance, and indirect admin.

Fund balance will be approximately \$1.3 million. PA 57 presses us to use captured funds within 5 years.

Question regarding why the large jump in estimated tax capture revenue – The city as a whole saw a large jump in assessing values, including commercial properties.

Question regarding if the new pot business is included in this budget – Unknown, Thurston will follow up.

Question regarding the high insurance and bond costs – This is assigned based on prior year budget, of which ours was quite high. Each fund pays a share according to their budget.

Question regarding brackets needed for allocated fund balance – Not needed due to this not being a full financial statement, only a budget worksheet for the upcoming year that does not have fund balances included.

Question regarding Wilkinson and if we can include that in the boundaries – Wilkinson is not in the boundaries and cannot be included. We cannot expand our external boundary according to the newest PA57 guidance.

Road Project Update

North Johnson Street – Road is closed, and construction is ready to start. Should be done and open to traffic October 30th. Champagne and Marx is the contractor and OHM is the engineer. Two laydown areas – 1515 N. Johnson and VanPoppelen property. There is also a new development going in at 1515 N. Johnson, should start after the road construction is done. They are contributing \$55,000 towards the sidewalks. Sidewalks will be wider than normal since we don't feel it is a safe area for bike lanes or sharrows.

Marquette – Expected to take place in June from Hart to Transit.

Riverbend West EGLE Grant Project – 480 Marquette

This is the old Dwan Property. Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy has been working on developing this into a Rustic Day park with help from a grant that the City has with EGLE for \$75,000 in environmental work. It should be open in Spring 2022.

Question regarding burial grounds – All work is planned for the surface and not to be disturbing so as to respect any burial grounds.

Question regarding if this is the same property some prior CDBG funds were used on – Yes, it is.

Earth Day Events – April 24th

Flyers were sent out regarding the various events related to Earth Day. Sanitation planned the majority of the events and due to COVID, no volunteers were needed. Community Policing will be helping with tires and pharmaceuticals. The hope is that things will return more to normal for next year's events and the CDCs will be able to participate.

Old Business:

CDBG Funding

There is approximately \$1.3 million in the CDBG budget for this year. Housing rehab has had some problems due to our partners, Community Home Solutions and Bay Area Housing, dissolving. An attempt to use Mid-Michigan Community Action Agency did not go well. We have a surplus of housing rehab dollars that need spent. We are trying to bring it in-house and will start with a small repair program. There are some budgeted monies for playground equipment, demolition, sidewalks, and lead pipes. We are also paying off the 108 loan early. We got some funds for COVID and used them for a utility/rent program and small business program. Over 200 people were assisted with utilities/rent and 32 businesses. We have some

money left but are waiting for HUD guidance on utilities because we own our own utility and there is some question on whether we can use the funding for electric bills.

Question – Does the early payoff save us any interest – No.

Question – Is there any service money in the budget – Yes, there is about \$14,500 in homeowner education/neighborhood cleanup.

Census – What the City is doing, how members can be involved

City Hall will be advertised as a location where the census can be taken. A desk top computer will be set up in the lobby of the bill payment area for anyone that would like to take the census. As some CDC members showed an interest in assisting with the census the City is going to have a laptop set up for volunteers interested in helping the public take the census. Advertisements will be put out on face book and the City's website in addition to email information. Please let Debbie know if you are interested and what days you would like to volunteer. Census days will be depended on how many volunteers we have.

Other Business:

Community Policing Update

Youth Leadership Academy will be back this year. National Night Out will be August 3. There will be officers throughout the city on bikes this summer.

Question – Are there any issue areas – No, the issues are city wide, but parks are getting a lot of graffiti and vandalism. Trail cameras have been set up and seem to be deterring activity.

Question – Any information on the drive by shooting incidents – Seems to be between a select few people and not at random. There are other units working on it and there is budget to add more officers, but it takes time to get new officers fully trained up. Criminals are opportunistic and will take advantage if they don't see officers present. The Safe Streets task force are out on the street in plain clothes to assist.

Question – Is it gang related or just individual crime – A little bit of both.

Comment regarding availability of walk-in vaccinations at the Community Center – contact the Health Department for information.

Comment regarding desire to meet in person for our next meeting, if possible.

Comments regarding upcoming developments of the Wolverine Knitting Mill, housing on Henry Street, old Atrium building and Black Pearl, closing streets for the summer downtown, pot grows and new electric substation on Morton Street, and status of the old YMCA/flea market owned by the Housing Commission.

Adjournment:

A motion was made and supported to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.