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Village of Elmira Heights Meeting Room
April 1, 2019
7:00 p.m.

Present: T. Amberg, Mayor M. Smith, H. Blish, C. Southard
Absent: G. Patelunas,
Excused:
Staff: Julie Chevalier, Executive Director, Lisa Novitsky, Program Director

J. Chevalier, Executive Director, called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Board of Director's Meeting Minutes – March 05, 2019:

Board members reviewed the Meeting Minutes. There were no additions and/or corrections.

T. Amberg, made a motion to accept the Meeting Minutes as presented,
H. Blish, seconded; motion carried.

Financial Statements ending March 2019:

Board members reviewed the Financial Statements. There were no additions and/or corrections.

H. Blish, made a motion to accept the Financial Statements as presented,
C. Southard, seconded; motion carried.

Approve Audit of Expenditures: Audit # 2019-401; Dated 4-1-19 Checks #340, 342 and 1493.

Board members reviewed the Expenditures. There were no additions and/or corrections.

T. Amberg, made a motion to approve the Audit of Expenditures as presented,
H. Blish, seconded; motion carried.

Urban Renewal Agency Report - April 2019:

Board members reviewed the Agency Report. There were no additions and/or corrections.

H. Blish, made a motion to accept the Urban Renewal Agency Report as presented,
C. Southard, seconded; motion carried

Other:

Economic Development

Pierce Landing – J. Chevalier presented to the Board the budget of the Pierce Landing project and the proposed agreement that the Village made in the grant application to offer the Graham's a 10 year loan in the amount of \$100,000 to help contribute to the \$1.7 million dollar project. There was no further discussion by the Board.



H. Blish made a motion to allow Mike and Shana Graham to borrow up to \$100,000 from the Urban Renewal Agency's Revolving Loan Fund,
T. Amberg seconded; motion carried.

Feasibility Study – J. Chevalier reported that she spoke with Donna Howell at Empire State Development and that her staff is working as fast as they can to get contracts out the door. She stated that the Village's contract should be forthcoming - soon.

Deficient Loans – Nothing new to report

URA Loan Applications and Interested Parties – J. Chevalier stated that she has been contacted by multiple persons interested in starting up a business in the Heights and reviewed the loan application process with them. One party requested an application be emailed to them. She met with one individual and showed them the Pierce Landing project, but he stated that he was more interested in purchasing the former Manos property. This person is interested in opening a distillery in the back of the building with ax throwing and an ice cream shop in the front.

Playground Funding/Grants – J. Chevalier stated that she suggested in a previous conversation that the Village should set aside funding in their upcoming budget to hire a consultant, such as Zsuzsi Kadar, to write a grant for playground renovations.

Comprehensive Plan – J. Chevalier stressed the importance of having the Village invest in hiring a consultant to create a Comprehensive Plan for them. She stated that by not having one in place makes it very difficult for her to write grant applications that are worthy of being funded. C. Southard backed Chevalier stating that it is critical for the Village to know what their plan is and how they're going to go about to make things change.

NYMS Application:

The owner of Hessleson's contacted Julie about getting his building restored and asked if the Village would be applying for NYMS funding. J. Chevalier stated that with Board approval, she would conduct a survey with business owners from East and West 14th Street to see if there is an interest. If there is not a strong interest from other business owners, J. Chevalier stated that she may write an Anchor Grant application through the NYMS Program, which would only assist Hessleson's.

Griswold's Building:

No new information to report. The property is now in the hands of the estate attorney.

Recognition of Persons Addressing the Agency:

Mark Benedict of 18th St remarked on that the distillery owner needs to make sure they can operate near the school. Suggest that the owners and Urban renewal check all the different licenses and variances on having a liquor license near a school, since there has to be a certain amount of feet between the two.



Remarks:

Mayor Smith asked J. Chevalier to follow up with STEG about their portion of funding toward the Feasibility Study.

C. Southard mentioned that the funding round for the DRI should be opening soon and well as the CFA through REDC.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on May 7, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

H. Blish, made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

T. Amberg, seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

(On file)

Lisa Novitsky
Program Director