

Economic Development Committee Meeting

Monday, December 11, 2023, at 6:00 pm
Village Hall
405 Main St. Pecatonica, IL

1. **Call to Order-** The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairman Collin Hardy at 6:00 pm on Monday, December 11, 2023.

2. **The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was recited.**

Roll call – Chairman Collin Hardy, Trustee Kim Gipe, Cheryl Bean and committee members Jack Stroup, Nick McGee and Jennifer Vanderjack were present.

Also in attendance were Village President Heister, Dawn Staas.

4. **Additions/Corrections to the Agenda-** Add introduction of new members. With all the new members the committee took a moment to introduce each other and give a little background on themselves.

Motion made by Chairman Hardy seconded by Trustee Gipe to approve the agenda. A roll call vote was taken, all present voted yes motion approved.

5. **Public Comment-** None

6. **Approve October 16, 2023, Meeting Minutes-**

A motion made by Jack Stroup and seconded by Jennifer Vanderjack to approve the October 16, 2023, Minutes. Discussion. A roll call vote was taken, Hardy abstain, Gipe abstain, Bean yes, McGee yes, Stroup yes and Vanderjack yes. Motion approved.

7. **Items for Discussion–**

A. Website Upgrade- Village President Heister discussed the need for a new Village Website. He has spoken to a few website designers and he asked the committee members to review Lena, Stockton and Warren’s website and bring back their thoughts to the next meeting. Discussion. This will be discussed at the January Meeting for recommendation to the full board.

B. Labor Day Event- The committee continued to discuss having a Labor Day event. The committee discussed things they would like to see at the event, 5K run, Bags tournaments, Fire Department water fights, Kite Day and more. The committee plans to invite all local groups and businesses to join in the event. This committee would oversee the event; however, they will have other committees run their individual events for the day. Discussion. The committee discussed ideas on how to get information back from groups and businesses in the Village. The committee will continue to discuss this at the next meeting.

C. Main Street Flowers- The committee discussed the Flower area near the Municipal Parking Lot at 4th and Main Street. The area was filled with weeds this past year and Tom has spoken with Lori McNamer from Forget-Me-Not about possible solutions. The committee also discussed the planters and hanging baskets and the possibility of hiring someone to care for the parking lot area throughout the season. Lori will be at the January meeting and we will continue to discuss this at that time.

D. Guidelines for Donations- The committee discussed creating guidelines for donations, along with information they would like to receive from the organization or group requesting the donation. Discussion. This discussion will continue at the January meeting.

E. Matching Grant Program- The committee discussed changes they would like to make to the Matching grant Program. Changes included sending out the information earlier, Applications for the Grant Program will be accepted between March 1, 2024, and April 30, 2024. Applicants will need to present their project to the committee at the May 13, 2024, meeting and will be evaluated by the Village Economic Committee for approval. Approved grant applications will be presented to the Village Board at its June Regular meeting for final approval and awarding of grants. Projects must be completed by the end of the coming fiscal year, April 30, 2025. The committee will make changes and discuss at the next committee meeting.

F. Relocation of Memorial Bricks- The committee discussed the memorial bricks that were removed when the Main Street lights were updated. Tom will get a complete count of the bricks and the committee members are encouraged to look around the downtown area and bring back ideas for the location of a new memorial wall. This will be discussed at the January meeting.

G. Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2025- The committee reviewed the budget numbers from the previous year. This discussion will continue at upcoming committee meetings. The budget will need to be completed within the first months of 2024. The new fiscal year begins May 1, 2024.

H. Change of Meeting Date for October 2024- The committee discussed the October meeting date and has decided to hold off on rescheduling it until a later date.

8. New Business-

9. Next Meeting- Monday, January 8, 2024

12. Adjournment- A motion made by Jennifer Vanderjack seconded by Kim Gipe to adjourn. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm.