

I. Call to Order

Members Present: Ashley Lucht, James Messeder, Maurice Matte, Januka Acharya, Councilor Bryn Oakleaf

City Staff Present: Angela Aldieri

Call to Order by: Ashley Lucht

Meeting Start Time: 5:30 PM

II. Public Comment

None

III. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes

Tabled until the next meeting.

IV. City Council Liaison Update

New Councilor, Chares Judge was elected. New assignments for councilors were doled out. Retreat/planning session is open to the public and all are welcome to come.

V. Inclusion & Belonging Update

The Inclusion and Belonging equity assessment tool was adopted by the City Council at their last meeting (two pages of guidance and guidelines for the City Council to refer to when making policy decisions).

VI. Approval: Elect Officer – Vice Chair

Tabled until July 2023

VII. Approval: Elect Officer - Secretary

Tabled until July 2023

VIII. Discussion: Municipal Plan – Focus Economic Vitality Section

Discussed Economic vitality plan and re-assessed progress made on discussions from last year. Discusses how city staff prioritizes projects. Commissioners could debate whether a Community and Economic Development Director needs to be added to address some of the economic vitality goals. The old director did a lot of work grant writing, establishing relationships with business, small business loan program, and helping with modeling gentrification reports.

The commission successfully completed discussions of how to allocate TIF money. Covered ESSER funding for afterschool programming among other existing programs. Allowed tax rate

to be lower than it otherwise would have been.

The commission discussed potentially expanding or adding downtown as an Opportunity Zone.

Attracting business objectives being met by the Lot 17/hotel development. Can we implement a vacancy tax.

Discussed accessory dwelling units, which are allowed under zoning laws. Short term rentals (Airbnb) not taxed currently.

The Commission noted that Economic Vitality Master Plan Goal number two will be revisited at our April meeting in conjunction with our review of the Economic Development Plan. Ashley asked that we touch base on this item again at the next meeting as well to give people a chance to digest and boil down the discussion to a few goals.

IX. Adjourn

Motion by: James Messeder

Second: Maurice Matte

Meeting End Time: 7:15 PM