

EP COUNCIL 2/24/25 85 N. MARKET ST. 7:00 PM

Mayor Pro Tem Jessica Rocco called the meeting to order. Present was Mr. Blythe, Mr. Glavan, Ms. Herriott, Mr. Povenski, and Mr. Simon. Mayor Conaway was out sick. Also present was Finance Director Melissa Hiner, Law Director David Powers, and Interim Manager/Clerk Misti Martin. The minutes of the regular meeting of 2/10 and special meeting of 2/18 were approved on a motion by Mr. Blythe seconded by Mr. Povenski. There were no department reports. There were no mayors, park/rec/cem, law director, utility or safety committee reports.

AGENDA: CRYSTAL SADENWASSER-BANNING FIREWORKS FOR PERSONAL USE IN THE VILLAGE. She said many surrounding communities have chosen to opt out of the legislation to allow personal use fireworks within city limits. Her home was shot by fireworks New Years Eve Day this year resulting in damage to the siding; she said she is thankful that is all the damage that was done but fears it is only a matter of time before a tragedy occurs. The fireworks also cause harm to domestic/wild animals as well as our veterans. She asked council to consider banning personal use fireworks in the in the village for everyone's safety. Dr. Rocco stated they would look into details as well as fireworks complaints with the PD and she would personally get back to Ms. Sadenwasser. **MIKE JACOBY-TRAIN DEPOT UPDATE.** Mr. Jacoby began by stating the building is 120 years old, has been empty for at least 20 years, does not have heat/electric/water/sewer. The eastern third of the building is over wood floors with a crawl space, with the western two thirds over a thick concrete slab foundation. The EPCIC (on behalf of the village) launched an effort over the summer to find tenants to use the space to generate downtown traffic, create jobs as well as a revenue stream. Grant funds were obtained to do conceptual drawings and develop cost estimates for the interior. Two concepts were developed with the chosen concept being a café space with a kitchen and bathrooms with the remaining space potentially being a coffee roasting operation; there is also discussion of creating a hybrid space for a brew pub and café space. There are also three different concepts for the outside of the building with parking, outside seating and a potential composting bin (with coffee grounds) to create additional revenue. The architects estimate of cost is \$722,357.00; this cost includes interior construction, plumbing/hvac etc., selective demo/asbestos abatement, paving, café/kitchen equipment (possible tenant expense). The next steps would be hiring an architect/engineer for detailed design (NS did provide \$100,000.00 for interior work) finalize transfer of depot to the village/EPCIC, tenant work with letters of intent, ARC grant pre-app in April, CDBG grant app in July, seek grant match funds from village, complete design, grant awards & bid project, select contractor/start construction, execute lease and finally occupancy of the space. Mr. Jacoby stated he would like to know if the village is supportive of the direction things are headed and if council will authorize the hiring of an architect/engineer for full design using some of the funds donated by NS; there is no hard and fast deadline as to a response from council on this issue however Mr. Jacoby stated he didn't want to make grant applications or work with potential tenants on expectations if the project is a no go so if council could let him know their thoughts in the next two weeks so he would know how to proceed.

CLERK/MANAGER: Met with NS/MBI for bi-weekly park update meeting in reference to needed documentation for the March 10 council meeting. The village has been awarded a \$50,000.00 grant through Norfolk Southern Thriving Communities Grant (applied for by Park Board member Karen Gorby) to be used for upgrades/repairs for Glenview Cemetery. This grant can be applied for on a yearly basis with a max award of \$50,000 and can be

applied for by both municipalities and 501C3 organizations. There are plans in the beginning stages for the 150th anniversary event and we will update as information is available.

STREET: Mr. Simon stated he has been gathering information in reference to the street levy and would like to hold a meeting to inform the public what the funds from the levy are used for and explain everything that has been done with the money over the last ten years and what the plan for the coming years would be.

DEV/FIN: Ms. Herriott stated the leadership training for the mayor, council, manager and department heads would be April 7th & 21st from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm and she reminded everyone to please complete the pre-workshop survey. She also stated she will meet with Lance Willard to discuss how Columbiana implemented their youth council member program.

THERE WAS NO LEGISLATION

VISITORS: Jerry Coblenz, John Davis, David Peters, Ron & Peggy Caratelli, Stephanie Elick, Mark Rhodes, Tom Brittain, Carol Harvey, Dan McKinstry, Bob & Tami Harris, Troy Rhoades, Kent Chapman, Dave Biggins, Antonio Diaz-Guy, Steph Elverd, Officer Milliken.

ADJOURN: Mr. Glavan made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Mr. Povenski. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

MISTI J. MARTIN CLERK

MAYOR PRO TEM JESSICA ROCCO