

These minutes are submitted by the Community Development Director and are not official until approved by the City of Evansville Economic Development Committee.

**City of Evansville Economic Development Committee
Monday, August 15th, 2022 6:00 PM**

MINUTES

1. Call to Order. Brooks called meeting to order at 6:07pm

2. Roll Call:

	Present/Absent	Others Present
Chair James Brooks	P	City Administrator Jason Sergeant
Ben Ladick, Vice Chair	P	Bill Lathrop, Evansville Today
Jon Alling	A	
Jason Knott	A	
Abbey Barnes	A	
Sue Berg	P	
Brandon Rutz	P	

3. Motion to Approve Agenda by Ladick, seconded by Berg, approved unanimously.

4. Motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the May 16, 2022 meeting and approve them as printed by Ladick, seconded by Berg, approved unanimously.

5. Civility Reminder. Brooks reminded the committee of the City’s commitments to civil discourse.

6. Citizen Appearances, other than listed agenda items. None

7. Monthly Report

A. Community Development Update.

Rutz gave an update on potential users of the rail site on County M. An RFP for the Templeton/Hughes property on the opposite side of the railroad has been sent out. Subway is looking for a new location and the City is continuing to assist in finding a new location. Would like a drive-up window, but not necessarily a stand-alone building.

Residential starts have been consistent with prior years; about 25 new homes will be built this year though the permits were issued for those homes at the tail end of 2021. Brooks inquired about other residential plats (Celtic Ridge, Capstone Ridge), which Sergeant replied that both were on hold for a variety of reasons. Capstone Ridge development is dependent on solving stormwater issues off-site. The longer this development stands dormant, the more out-of-date the stormwater plan becomes. The state has only gotten more stringent since that plat was approved.

- 1) Discussion and Motion to recommend economic development budget and tourism budget to Common Council.

Brooks suggested discussing the tourism budget during the tourism report. The group discussed changes to the Economic Development Budget for 2023. To date, \$1,341 was spent out of a \$19,400 budget. Changes made include increasing the Professional Services budget from \$4,500 to \$10,000 in anticipation of marketing City-owned sites for development. Expenses were cut from \$5,900 to \$1,000, as the City does not intend to renew its contract for upkeep of the available properties database and associated website changes. Line items for Dues, Plan Implementation, Marketing, and Print Materials remain unchanged. The line item for the Building Improvement Grant was increased to \$4,000. Total for the proposed 2023 budget: \$21,000.

Motion to recommend to Common Council the proposed 2023 Economic Development budget of \$21,000 by Berg, seconded by Ladick, approved unanimously.

- B. Chamber of Commerce Report.** No report. Sergeant shared that Executive Director Christina Slaback is resigning effective the end of August 2022.
- C. Tourism Commission Report.** Berg gave the report. Tourism met on August 11th at Creekside Place. Mayor Duggan stepped down from her seat on the committee; Ben Corridon has taken her place. Nancy Nelson is helping more with the murals and a new one is underway. **Next meeting is October 13th.**

- 1) Discussion and Motion to recommend tourism budget to Common Council.

Brief discussion regarding expenditures for Tourism.

Motion to recommend to Common Council the proposed 2023 Tourism budget of \$22,050 by Ladick, seconded by Berg, approved unanimously.

8. Discussion.

A. Final Comments on the Economic Development Chapter of Comprehensive Plan.

The committee had a brief discussion regarding the content of the economic development chapter. Sergeant noted that per State statute, some of the objectives may need to be given milestone dates for completion.

9. Next Meeting Dates: Monday, September 19, 2022 at 6:00pm.

10. Motion to Adjourn by Berg, seconded by Ladick, approved unanimously.