

## **ECONOMIC PLANNING BOARD MEETING**

7256 Skyline Drive, Justice, IL  
Wednesday, May 24, 2017 at 7:00 PM



**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM

### **ROLL CALL:**

Economic Development Coordinator Brittany Abrams called the roll. Present are Chairman Matthew Zarebczan and Board Members: Karen Warner, John Kapecki, Fran Mills, David Shipyor and Joseph Chicola. Not in attendance Orley O. Betcher Jr.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The Chair will entertain a Motion: To approve the minutes of the April 20, 2017 regular Economic Planning Board Meeting as submitted, or if necessary as corrected.

Motion: Fran Mills Moves: To approve the minutes as submitted.

Second: Karen Warner

VOTE: Karen Warner, John Kapecki, Fran Mills, David Shipyor and Joseph Chicola. All ayes. Motion passed.

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

Chairman Matthew Zarebczan introduced four new businesses in Justice; Dr. Green Thumb to operate as a Landscape Business Office at 7859 S. Cronin Avenue; Rihe Sushi Hibachi dba Lucky Dragon to operate as a Sushi/Chinese Restaurant located at 8019 W. 79th Street in Justice; Baraky Construction Inc. to operate a home occupation construction business office; and Root X Sewer & Drain to operate as a home occupation home office for a Sewer Rodding & Drain business.

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) is in the process of creating a new comprehensive regional plan, ON TO 2050, and would like to make the Village of Justice a part of it. They are scheduling a workshop to discuss this plan; the audience includes available and interested members of our Village of Justice Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Economic Planning Board, department heads and staff. The interactive workshop will be held in the Board Room at Willow Springs Village Hall and will also include representatives from Willow Springs, Bedford Park, Bridgeview, and Indian Head Park. Date and time of the workshop will be forwarded via email to everyone once determined.

The developer and the bank are working towards completing the closing for the purchase of the Lelko property (triangle property). They are currently awaiting final signatures and we are optimistic that we will still see a ground breaking this year.

**COORDINATOR'S REPORT:**

Economic Development Coordinator, Brittany Abrams announced that the Trees for Tomorrow Volunteer Project will be held on Saturday, June 3, 2017, weather permitting. If the weather does not cooperate, the alternative date will be on Saturday, June 10, 2017. Chairman Matthew Zarebczan explained that the project consists of planting four trees along Roberts Road. Brittany Abrams advised that permits have been acquired from Cook County, the trees have been ordered, JULIE was called out to mark the location and Public Works will be digging the holes this week.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

None

**COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Business Retention & Expansion Committee:

Chairman Matthew Zarebczan shared that there has been a lot of positive feedback from our business community. Business owners have been calling the office and are interested in projects going on throughout the village. The business owners are happy that the village is making time to come out and visit them. These business visits are important and are a great way to get the business owners involved. Trustee Hank Oszakiewski stated that Senior Club President Ray Hodson and himself visited six village businesses. During those visits, they asked for donations for the Justice Senior Club and the businesses were very generous. Chairman Matthew Zarebczan said to mention to the business owners during the visits that the Village of Justice has a Senior Club, maybe a business would like to host a meeting or event. Trustee Hank Oszakiewski asked about revenue from the video gaming monthly reports. Chairman Matthew Zarebczan said he will share those reports with the Economic Planning Board but also noted that the reports are public information and can be found on the State of Illinois Gaming website.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Economic Development Coordinator, Brittany Abrams shared the draft of the Marketing Plan with the Economic Planning Board. She compiled the notes from both groups at the marketing workshop to create this draft. Each member received a color copy via email and was asked to provide feedback for changes or additions. Chairman Matthew Zarebczan made the suggestion to keep the years off of the plan so it can be followed from this time forward. Trustee Hank Oszakiewski suggested to add a history chart to keep record of changes. Karen Warner made the suggestion to have the year it was created on the bottom footer so those reading the plan have an idea when this plan began. Economic Development Coordinator Brittany Abrams asked the Economic Planning Board to email her their feedback on the plan no later than June 2, 2017. Once final comments are received and the draft is modified, a final plan will be sent to the Village of Justice Board of Trustees for comments.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Chairman Matthew Zarebczan and Economic Development Coordinator, Brittany Abrams attended the 2017 Technical Assistance Symposium that discussed opportunities in planning and technical assistance. Chairman Matthew Zarebczan advised that projects are focused primarily on transit oriented development, plan implementation and transit improvement plans. CMAP, the RTA and partners provide plan implementation assistance and support for local governments. The Village of Riverside's city manager presented how they used this CMAP's planning assistance to work towards re-branding their community for economic development growth and how they created a strategic plan. Chairman Matthew Zarebczan said after listening to the speaker, the Village of Justice appears to be headed in the right direction. The Village of Riverside created a video they now use to reach out to developers. In the past, the Village of Justice introduced this idea but we never initiated the start of this project. This video will assist with gaining interest and help attract new businesses and development in the Village. Chairman Matthew Zarebczan said it would be nice to have a workshop to share further ideas about what we would like to have the video consist of. Fran Mills said it would be nice to have local students involved to help create the video. John Kapecki explained it would be neat if a challenge was introduced to have groups of students create a 60 second film to compete for a prize or incentive. David Shipyor shared some ideas about getting the village involved with Moraine Valley Community College Art Center or Audio Visual Department. He will reach out to them and gather information once the video plan is in place. Fran Mills exclaimed why not get the community involved in the video. If the village asked the Fire Department, Police Department and business owners to be involved in video it would create a friendly supportive community. She suggested keeping it short, simple but descriptive. If this video can be uploaded onto social media, it will be a big hit. Trustee Melanie Kuban said that the Police Department is always looking for ways to show friendliness within the community. They would be more than happy to be involved. Chairman Matthew Zarebczan said we will setup a workshop to begin the planning process so we can share ideas. There was a short discussion regarding the creation of alternative videos to cover additional village events.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Trustee Melanie Kuban requested to have the street crossings sent to her where trees will be planted. She will ask the Police Department to join and have their lights on for safety precaution during the event and will reach out to the Roberts Park Fire Protection District for their assistance.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The Chair will entertain a Motion to Adjourn.

MOTION: Karen Warner

SECOND: David Shipyor

VOICE VOTE: All ayes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37PM

Respectfully submitted,

Brittany Abrams  
Economic Development Coordinator