

VILLAGE OF JUSTICE
ECONOMIC PLANNING BOARD MEETING
7800 ARCHER ROAD, JUSTICE, IL
Thursday, September 15, 2016 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: Orley O. Betcher Jr., John Kapecki, Fran Mills, and Joseph Chicola. Absent is Board Member Wojciech Dziechciowski.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The Chair will entertain a Motion: To approve the minutes of the July 21, 2016 regular Economic Planning Board Meeting as submitted, or if necessary as corrected.

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

Second: John Kapecki

VOTE: Orley O. Betcher Jr., John Kapecki, Fran Mills, and Joseph Chicola. All ayes. Motion passed.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Chairman Matthew Zarebczan provided updates from the coordination meeting with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), the Illinois Tollway, Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways (CCDOH) and the Village of Justice that was held on Thursday August 11, 2016. The meeting was held to gather comments from the key project stakeholders for the Tollway project. At this time there hasn't been any feedback provided and the project scenarios are still being reviewed. Mayor Kris Wasowicz and Director of Economic Development Matthew Zarebczan will attend a coordination meeting in Bedford Park on September 20, 2016 at 8AM for the Enterprise Zone that the Village is part of. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds were approved in the amount of \$200,000 to reconstruct 80th Street from 87th Avenue to 86th Court, and 87th Avenue from 80th Street to the tollway. Engineering is anticipated to begin in late 2016. A Resolution is being created for the Frontage Road Sidewalk Project that would construct sidewalks on the north side of Frontage Road from Oak Grove Avenue to Garden Lane. The Village is still waiting on a response for the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) Grant project. The project consists of beautifying Frontage Road/79th Street, to include installation of landscaping, pedestrian lighting, and community benches. We hope to hear from them soon. Chairman Matthew Zarebczan will contact the developer of the Triangle Property to get an update.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

COMMITTEE REPORT:

Business Retention & Expansion Committee:

Chairman Matthew Zarebczan met with a business this past week and the owner said he was happy with the Mayor and current board. They haven't seen as much going on in the village as they have seen these past years. The business is 123 years old this year which is a big milestone. Joseph Chicola visited a couple businesses and gathered feedback, one mentioned about the monuments used at the Justice Park District. Chairman Matthew Zarebczan stated it was nice to see that the Park District selected a local business, Monumental Artworks, to create the First Responder monument.

OLD BUSINESS:

Economic Development Coordinator Brittany Abrams explained that the feedback she received from the participating businesses using the coupon marketing plan has not been as successful as they had hoped. Brittany Abrams asked for any ideas that would better the marketing program for participating businesses, maybe providing them in surrounding communities. Chairman Matthew Zarebczan said though we cannot place the coupons online, we can still place a reminder on Facebook mentioning community coupons can be picked up at the participating businesses and village public buildings. A resident of Justice, Rocco Muscia of 8636 S. 79th Court, asked if the coupons can be distributed with the newsletters. It was explained to him that businesses pay for advertisements in the newsletter that are delivered to every household and business in town. We cannot allow these to override those. John Kapecki stated that maybe creating a survey link for the coupon program that would allow for feedback to enhance the program. Trustee Melanie Kuban said to mention coupons on social media and a quick blurb in the newsletter. Trustee Hank Oszakiewski stated that we are limiting opportunities if we just keep them here in town. He explained we need to market them to other towns. Trustee Melanie Kuban also mentioned to contact surrounding town clerks and ask them if they would allow us to place these coupons in their villages and inform them that we also will allow them to place anything in our village hall for them.

Economic Development Coordinator Brittany Abrams created a spreadsheet for a Milestone Anniversary Recognition Program and a simplified plan based off the feedback from the Economic Planning Board. The drafted plan was distributed to the Economic Planning Board along with the milestone spreadsheet. Chairman Matthew Zarebczan asked the Economic Planning Board to send their feedback of the structured plan with any changes or additions to Brittany Abrams by next Friday. From there, a finalized plan will be

provided to the Mayor, Clerk, and Board of Trustees. John Kapecki mentioned that he would like to see businesses recognized in the years between the big milestones too. Fran Mills explained sending a letter to the businesses to recognize the years between would be a nice gesture. Orley O. Betcher Jr. specified there should be one recognition ceremony in the middle of the year to recognize all of the businesses. Fran Mills explained why she would like the recognition to be done at the Annual Business Appreciation dinner. Trustee Melanie Kuban said it is important to recognize them at a Board Meeting for publicity and press release along with the recognition in the meeting minutes. Chairman Matthew Zarebczan said it would be nice to include the actual months of the anniversary on the recognition plan. Some of the Economic Planning Board members mentioned that it would be a hard process to gather these months and to recognize them each month of the year. Fran Mills said we should just include a simple information update form along with the business renewal invoice this year that would include a line for business establishment. Trustee Melanie Kuban mentioned we can also include the recognition thank you letter with the business invoices this year. A lot of feedback was shared and a plan will be ready for review in the coming weeks.

The Bike Path Kick Off Meeting was a success. There was a great turn out of representatives and participants. Leslie Phemister, from Active Transportation, provided a great presentation along with a separate working session. The next meeting will be held in Willow Springs on October 29, 2016. A bike path committee will be formed to include George Pastorino, Matthew Zarebczan, Brittany Abrams, Ed Shilka, and two more representatives from the EPB. Chairman Mathew Zarebczan asks that he be contacted if the members were interested in joining this committee. John Kapecki introduced a plan from Chicago Metropolitan Planning Council who also will be holding a roundtable meeting in the coming weeks. He feels we can learn from them and join along to be part of this trending plan. From there we can scale it down to fit what we are looking to do. John Kapecki will send the information to Brittany Abrams who will then forward it to the boards.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Hank Oszakiewski asked if there was an update on Pace. Chairman Matthew Zarebczan informed him we cannot share the information in public at this time. Once we get permission from Pace, then we can go ahead and share the information.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

The Chair will entertain a Motion to Adjourn.

MOTION: Orley O. Betcher Jr.

SECOND: Joseph Chicola

VOICE VOTE: All ayes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45PM

Respectfully submitted,

Brittany Abrams

Economic Development Coordinator