

CITY OF JEFFERSON
Council Worksession
August 13, 2020
3:30pm

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Mayor Michael Myers, David Watkins, Bob Rossiter, Audrey Webster, Edna Campau, Dave Beyerl, Walt Perry
COUNCILORS ABSENT: None
STAFF PRESENT: Sarah Cook, CM/R; Amy Dixon, COG Planner
OTHERS PRESENT: Lisa Trauernicht, MC Commissioners Office

I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Myers called the zoom meeting to order at 3:33pm.

II. **WORKSESSION TOPICS**

A. CDBG Agreement with Marion County

Sarah Cook introduced Lisa from Marion County and asked her to provide a summary of the program. Lisa explained the benefits of the program and how the County was reaching out to every City to seek participation. Marion County would manage the program and if projects came up that met the criteria, they would apply for the funding. Having a cooperative agreement of this nature helps cities gain better access to funding for specific projects. Funds from the program could be used for housing, public spaces such as parks, improved facilities for low-moderate income levels, and more. She noted HUD's three objectives for the funds were improvements to or for low/moderate income areas, blight, and emergencies.

Mayor Myers commented that it would be a good opportunity for non-profits such as the Community Center, Conser House restoration through JHS&M, and the food bank. Councilor Beyerl was curious if the funds that could be used for parks included the acquisition of property, to which Lisa indicated she would have to look into. Overall, the Council thought the program was a great opportunity and Councilor Campau moved to approve the CDBG agreement with Marion County. Councilor Perry seconded. All in favor: Ayes – 6, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**

B. Memo from Planner Re: Development Code Amendments

Amy Dixon explained her research amongst other cities similar to Jefferson's size, in regards to amending the development code to provide more flexibility in the mixed-use zoned parts of the City. However, because it was a newer approach, she had to seek examples from bigger cities such as Salem and Eugene. It was her recommendation that the Council move forward with the code amendments to create more flexible options for developers and property owners in the mixed-use zones, as doing so would allow for easier occupancy of structures and less vacant buildings. Councilor Beyerl confirmed electrical and plumbing requirements would need to be adequate for both residential and commercial uses. There was a consensus amongst the Council to proceed with the code changes as recommended.

C. Resolution# 1068, Declaring Unforeseen Occurrences Not Known at Budget, and Appropriating Funds Related to Covid-19

Sarah Cook explained the purpose of the resolution, which was to amend the recently adopted budget to account for the City's portion of the Coronavirus Relief Funds. The City was not made aware of the amount of funds until well after the budget had been adopted. A revenue line needed to be added to account for the reimbursements that would come in, and the expense line for "community support" was increased to match. Brief discussion took place on what the funds could be used for, including business grants, assistance to local citizens affected by Covid-19, PPE supplies, etc. She noted funds could not be used to "pay back" the City for lost revenue. In response to Councilor Perry's question regarding marketing it, Sarah noted she would use every means available: website, Facebook, Nixle, Chamber, local postings, personal delivery, whatever it took to get the word out and use the funds before December 31st.

Councilor Perry moved to adopt Resolution# 1068. Councilor Watkins seconded. All in favor: Ayes – 6, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**

III. **ACCOUNTS PAYABLE** – Councilor Beyerl moved to approve. Councilor Watkins seconded. All in favor: Ayes – 6, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**

IV. **VISITORS** – none

V. **COUNCIL AND STAFF COMMENTS**

Edna Campau confirmed everybody had received the update from Patti Ball regarding the Conser House and grants.

Mayor Myers spoke to Councilor Webster's email regarding their upcoming move out of town. He thanked her for her time on Council, complimenting her ability to affect change quicker and more efficiently than ever before. Mayor Myers also talked about long time community member, Bud Jones, who had been diagnosed with cancer and encouraged those that knew him to stop by and visit him soon.

VI. **ADJOURNMENT** – Councilor Perry moved to adjourn; seconded by Councilor Webster. All were in favor and the meeting closed at 4:05pm.

MINUTES APPROVED this 24th day of September, 2020.



Michael D. Myers, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sarah Cook, City Manager/Recorder