

---

Minutes of the Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Auburndale held November 16, 2020 at 8:21 p.m. in the Commission Room of City Hall, after having been properly advertised, with the following members present: Chair Cindy Price, Vice Chair Ellie Harper, Dorothea Taylor Bogert, Keith Cowie, Richard Hamann, Jack Myers, and Tim Pospichal. Also present were: Assistant City Manager Jeff Tillman and Finance Director/City Clerk Shirley Lowrance.

**Motion** by Jack Myers, seconded by Richard Hamann, to approve the Community Redevelopment Agency Minutes of the September 15, 2020 Meeting. Upon vote, all ayes.

Assistant City Manager Jeff Tillman said with the CDBG Project that encompasses the Main Street sidewalk project improvements, we have been able to utilize the contractor that has been on site to make Main Street improvements. He showed the pedestrian crossing that is currently under construction near the First Missionary Baptist Church. He said there will be flashing beacons similar to what we have on PK Avenue. He said there will also be additional landscaping and fencing to compliment the Gateway off of Magnolia Avenue. He said there was an approval for a CRA grant on Havendale Blvd. As reported at the last meeting, we did have some applications in. Once it was approved for applications on the Havendale and Hwy 92 corridor, we approved the grant for \$50,000. He displayed a picture of the building, which has already been painted. They are actively working on the site. The name of the business is Paris Banh Mi Bakery. They are currently based out of Orlando, but are moving their headquarters there. They are franchised in the Orlando area, Tampa, and Texas. He said we are really pleased with that grant.

Cindy Price asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

## **1. PUBLIC AND STAFF SUGGESTIONS FOR NEW PROJECTS**

Assistant City Manager Jeff Tillman said the Community Redevelopment Agency Plan provides for projects in the following categories: Beautification, Economic Development, Infrastructure, and Administrative Support Projects. The current list of suggested projects is an on-going list and is amended annually according to public, staff, and CRA Board input. An advertisement was placed in the local media and posted on the City's website encouraging residents and business owners to provide input to the CRA Board on future projects. All suggestions will be brought back before the CRA Board in January 2021, at which time the Board will consider amending the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) to reflect a new "fifth year" to accommodate new projects. We advertised this and did not receive any calls from the public and Staff does not have any additional projects to add. He said this starts our Budget process, as the wish-list of projects we want to get done in the CRA. After this Meeting, we meet in January to add the new fifth year of projects. We are able to delete some of the projects as they have been completed: Infrastructure Improvements on the west side of Main Street from Hwy 92 to Melton Avenue and Applying for the FRA Award for the PK Avenue. Staff does not have any additional projects to add. We do have some big projects before us such as the Civic Center Relocation and Park Street Commercial area. These projects will actually take multiple funding years to advance the projects. Staff recommended approving the Suggested Project List to include any additional projects, if the Board had any suggestions.

Keith Cowie asked if the City owned the property where the old Baseball fields are located.

Assistant City Manager Jeff Tillman said some of the property was ours and some belonged to the School Board.

Keith Cowie said when the Softball moved to the Softball Complex, we put money aside to assist with renovating the fields for practice fields.

Assistant City Manager Jeff Tillman said we could look at that, but did not know if the property was within the CRA. He said we would get Parks and Recreation regarding the fields.

Dorothea Taylor Bogert suggested Polk County School Board may purchase the property.

**Motion** by Jack Myers, seconded by Dorothea Taylor Bogert, to approve the Suggested Project List to include any additional projects. Upon vote, all ayes.

## 2. PRESENTATION OF CRA YEARLY CALENDAR

Assistant City Manager Jeff Tillman said annually the CRA Board adopts the CRA calendar that states the future activities of the CRA and the months we will bring certain items to the Meetings. The calendar is consistent with the previous year's meeting schedule. Staff recommended approval of the CRA's calendar.

**Motion** by Jack Myers, seconded by Dorothea Taylor Bogert, to accept the CRA yearly calendar.

Chair Cindy Price said she has two meetings she plans to miss – May and August.

Upon vote, all ayes.

## 3. CONSIDER REALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR THE CRA GRANT PROGRAM

Assistant City Manager Jeff Tillman said at the last meeting of the Community Redevelopment Agency, held September 15, 2020, the CRA Board approved adding the U.S. Hwy 92 and Havendale Blvd. commercial corridors as a targeted area for the Redevelopment and Impact Fee Assistance Grants. As a part of the discussion, staff stated that additional funding is needed for the Grant Program. Staff has updated the Redevelopment Application Grant and placed them on our website. For several years, the CRA has budgeted \$100,000 annually for the Redevelopment and Impact Fee Assistance Grants. Funding for the Grant Program was not included in the FY 2020-2021 Budget due to the amount of funding available when the Budget was approved in May of 2020. As a result of interest in the Redevelopment and Impact Fee Assistance Grants since the approval the Budget, there was a lack of funding available to commit to future projects. The current FY 2020-2021 Budget allocates \$1,150,000 to the Park Street Commercial Reserve. Staff recommended reallocating \$150,000 from the Park Street Commercial Reserve to the Redevelopment and Impact Fee Grant Assistance line item. He said with this reallocation, it will provide for a \$200,000 balance for proposed projects.

**Motion** by Dorothea Taylor Bogert, seconded by Keith Cowie to reallocate \$150,000 from the Park Street Commercial Reserve to the Redevelopment and Impact Fee Assistance line item. Upon vote, all ayes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:34p.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Minutes are true and correct.

  
Shirley A. Lowrance, Finance Director/City Clerk