

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ZONE COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 20, 2016 10:00 A.M.
CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, VERO BEACH, FLORIDA**

A G E N D A

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A) May 16, 2016
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 4. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A) Update on Downtown to be given by Mr. Tim McGarry, Planning and Development Director
- 5. OLD BUSINESS**
 - A) Traffic Calming
- 6. NEXT MEETING DATE**
 - A) August 15, 2016
- 7. ADJOURNMENT**

This is a Public Meeting. Should any interested party seek to appeal any decision made by this Committee with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he will need a record of the proceedings and that, for such purpose he may need to ensure that a record of the proceedings is made which includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Anyone who needs a special accommodation for this meeting may contact the City's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator at 978-4920 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ZONE COMMITTEE MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 16, 2016 10:00 A.M.
CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, VERO BEACH, FLORIDA**

PRESENT: Chairman Jessica Hawkins, Vice Chairman Terry Torres and Member: Garry Rooney. **Also Present:** Jay Kramer, Mayor and Tammy Vock, City Clerk

Excused Absences: Mr. Scott Chisholm and
Mr. Mike Williams

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman called today's meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) April 18, 2016

Mr. Rooney made a motion to approve the April 18, 2016 minutes. Mr. Torres seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

4. NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Kramer suggested having the Planning and Development Director (Mr. Tim McGarry) give them an update on the new things that are happening in the downtown area.

The Committee liked the idea of Mr. McGarry bringing them up to speed on the new developments in the downtown area.

Mr. Rooney wondered if they could reach out to some of the other organizations downtown to help them with slowing down traffic in the downtown area. He wondered if it was something that they would get behind.

Mrs. Hawkins reported that it was part of the Cultural Council's plan to have traffic calming. She felt that this was something that needed to be discussed with the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). She agreed how difficult it was to cross the street.

Mr. Torres felt that they could organize a fundraiser to cover the cost of restriping. He felt there were a lot of businesses that would contribute. He was looking in the neighborhood of \$55,000. He noted that the City Council approved this project, but without funding. They were looking at this project as being a DOT project, which is scheduled to begin in seven (7) years. He said with some fundraising efforts they could have this project moved up.

Mayor Kramer agreed that if the funds were available they could probably start the project now. He will talk to the Public Works Director about the project being done if the dollars came through fundraising efforts. He asked Mr. Torres if he believed that enough businesses would donate to cover the costs.

Mr. Torres commented that many people see the traffic problems downtown, so he felt that they would contribute because they would benefit from it. They could ask some of the principle people downtown how they feel about it. The significant goal would be to raise about \$50,000. He said with the restriping done and having the speed limit lowered it would help slow down traffic.

Mrs. Hawkins commented that where her business is located (20th Place) she still sees people going down the street the wrong way. She said maybe if there was more signage indicating that someone is going the wrong way it would help.

Mr. Torres pointed out that another spot that is a problem is the area east of Caldwell Bankers. He said that he notices a lot of people going the wrong way in that area.

Mr. Rooney commented that maybe by getting a "Team" together it will have some impact and there will be the support of getting this done.

Mr. Torres was surprised of how many people in this community are not interested in having the traffic slowed down. They would rather see a highway going through the town.

Mayor Kramer asked will this help businesses downtown.

Mr. Torres answered yes. He said between the traffic calming and extra parking it can help property values go up. He recalled there was a study done on this, but he could not remember the Consultant who did the study.

Mayor Kramer commented that they will need to look at different ways in order to sell the concept to the public.

Mr. Torres felt that the businesses would be in favor of on street parking because it provides parking in front of the businesses that need it. This would also help the downtown area by applying traffic calming with on street parking.

Mayor Kramer commented if they have the people who would be willing to donate to this project then they can come up with a plan and do the project in phases instead of waiting for Department of Transportation (DOT) to start the project.

Mrs. Hawkins suggested working together with Main Street, the Cultural Council, Heritage Center, etc., on this project.

Mr. Torres stated that he would make a motion that they explore the feasibility of the fundraising project to help speed up the process of calming the traffic on State Road 60. They would start with a small section first. He said they could first look at Old Dixie Highway to 20th Avenue (west bound lane). They will need to know the cost to do different phases. Mr. Torres was later told that a motion was not necessary.

Mayor Kramer will check with Mr. Falls on the cost of doing this.

Mrs. Hawkins suggested inviting all of the different parties to their June meeting and having a dollar figure on how much this project will cost.

Mr. Torres commented that the City might be able to do the project at a lower cost than what was quoted by DOT. He was told that they would still need DOT approval in order to do the project.

Mrs. Hawkins then suggested that the Committee meet in June and discuss the information that Mayor Kramer will bring back to them. She said then in August they would ask all of the different entities to join them in talking about the proposed project. She said they will need to put together a plan for DOT and submit it to them for their approval. She said that pre-app's are free with DOT and is something that could be done over the phone. She said it would be pointless to pursue the project if DOT will not allow them to do it.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A) Economic Development Plan

Mrs. Hawkins reported that their Economic Development Plan was approved by the City Council.

6. NEXT MEETING DATE – Commission to decide if they will meet during the summer months

The Committee agreed to meet in June and would tentatively cancel their July meeting and plan to meet in August.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Today's meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

/tv