

Economic Development Committee

Monday, August, 25 2014

Held at The Oaks Golf Course

100 Hideaway Place

Somersworth, NH

Members Present

Jon McCallion, Dale Sprague, Dave Witham, and Sean Collins

City Staff Present

Bob Belmore and Dave Sharples.

Agenda

Peter Harrity of the Oaks Golf Club addressed the committee and thanked them for coming. Peter expressed his willingness to work with the City and provide support where they can. Peter explained his operations and mentioned some needed work to improve the course that includes a selective timber cut to be managed by a registered forester. He asked the committee for their support as it would be in the long term interest of the facility.

1. Approve meeting minutes

The minutes from July 11, 2014 were approved.

2. Former Police Station Building

The Committee discussed the lack of proposals received. Discussed the potential of either issuing another RFP or authorizing the City Manager to negotiate a sale with any interested parties.

Motion: Sprague moved to recommend a resolution to authorize the City Manager to negotiate a sale with any interested developers.

Seconded by Witham. Motion carried with a 4-0 vote.

There was a consensus among the Committee that any sale needs language that improvements need to be completed by certain timeframes or ownership will revert back to the City.

3. Code Enforcement Issues

Belmore and Sharples gave an update on the Market Street properties.

Committee members discussed adding more police officers. Belmore mentioned another community's program regarding "community service officers" who are civilian members of the Police Department engaged in a variety of community outreach and public relations. Belmore has asked the Police Chief to research this and other possible new programs.

Reviewed memo from Jack Kenyon regarding JLC property maintenance concerns.

4. Miscellaneous

Collins discussed possible zoning of payday loans and churches. The ordinance regarding payday loans recently got changed and churches are protected by Federal law.

Witham stated that he likes the idea of moving the EDC meetings around the Community to other businesses.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Dave Sharples