

GRA REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 16, 2020 VIA ZOOM

Members present: Ronald Cormier-Chairman, Neil Janssens (after approval of Minutes), Paul Tassone, M. Paul Carlberg, and Trevor Beauregard.

Members absent: *Timothy Horrigan.*

Also present: Christine Martines Fucile, and Maribel Cruz.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OPEN MEETING RECORDINGS :

Any person may make a video or audio recording of an open session of a meeting, or may transmit the meeting through any medium, subject to reasonable requirements of the Chair as to the number, placement and operation of equipment used so as not to interfere with the conduct of the meeting. Any person intending to make such recording shall notify the Chair forthwith. All Documents referenced or used during the meeting must be submitted in duplicate to the Director of Community Development & Planning pursuant to the Open Meeting and Public Records Law. All documents shall become part of the official record of the meeting.

Call to Order:

Mr. Cormier called the Regular Meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

1. Minutes:

Vote to approve meeting of July 23, 2020.

Motion to approve Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

P. Carlberg/P. Tassone

Vote – All in favor.

Roll Call Vote:

Ron Cormier, yes; P. Tassone, yes; P. Carlberg, yes.

- ***N. Janssens joined the meeting at 8:50 am after vote.***

Count –3 yes.

2. Old Business :

2.1 Urban Renewal Plans:

Mill Street Corridor

T. Beauregard said he is working on another extension for Garbose property which should be around mid-October. The buyer is working with a potential tenant that will be purchasing a portion of the buyer's property, and would like both closings to take place at the same time.

Downtown

32 Parker Street Land Transfer:

T. Beauregard noted he spoke with Attorney Flick who suggested obtaining an updated title report. T. Beauregard remarked he contacted Scott Burns to do the title report, and he gave a price of \$350. T. Beauregard inquired if Mr. Burns would be able to reduce his fee since nothing has changed from the last title report, however, his response was he could not.

Outdoor Dining:

T. Beauregard stated he applied for funding through MassDOT called “Shared Streets and Spaces” grant for outdoor dining, as well as the salons and barbers to provide seating. The location will be George Sweeney Park area. Solar canopies and possibly tents will be provided to allow through the month of October, however, will close down in November through the winter.

3. New Business:

3.1 Financials for Accounts and Investments:

T. Beauregard brought attention to the account balances. Also noted, a check from BCC Solar is due beginning of November. In addition, a payment will be due to Keller-Williams October 1, 2020 for the commercial lease to purchase agreement.

Motion to accept financials as presented.

P Carlberg/P. Tassone.

Vote - All in favor.

Roll Call Vote:

Ron Cormier, yes; P. Tassone, yes; N. Janssens, yes; P. Carlberg, yes.

Count – 4 yes.

3.2 Any new business to come before the Board:

T. Beauregard asked M. Cruz to explain the new Micro-Enterprise Assistance Grant program for small businesses impacted by Covid-19.

M. Cruz confirmed the City was approved for \$400,000 grant funds. So far, there have been eight (8) applicants with a limit of \$5,000 each.

T. Beauregard asked M. Cruz to update the business park study. M. Cruz responded she has all the access agreements with the exception of one, who has some requests.

M. Cruz explained the business park study is to help find an area within Gardner to construct an industrial park. Route 140 area was designated. T. Beauregard added the other side of Route 140 did not work out due to topography, and wetlands.

4. Announcements / Notices / Articles / Special Events:

... Gardner News Article provided regarding Matthews Street Feasibility Study.

... 2021 Meeting Schedule Time: It was agreed 8:30 a.m. a better time to meet.

... Next meeting scheduled for October 21, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.

Adjournment

Meeting closed at 9:10 a.m.

Motion to adjourn.

N. Janssens/P. Tassone.

Vote – All in

favor.

Roll Call Vote:

Ron Cormier, yes; N. Janssens, yes; P. Tassone, yes; P. Carlberg, yes.

Count – 4 yes.

Executive Session (if required)

All documents referenced or used during the meeting are part of the official record and are available in the Gardner Redevelopment Authority office, Gardner City Hall Annex, Room 201, pursuant to the Open Meeting and Public Records Law.