

JOINT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, MAY 24TH, 2021 beginning at 6:05 P.M.

CD PRESENT: Chair Callahan, Mitchell, Cerra, Oswald, Jessie

FINANCE PRESENT: Chair Stewart, Tollett, Baird, Jessie, Davis

OTHERS PRESENT: Law Dir Deery, Mayor Whitfield, Safety Service Dir Brubaker, Finance Dir Pileski, Asst Director Calvert, Engineer Schneider, Fire Chief Mack, Councilperson Keys

1. Approval of the MAY 10TH, 2021 JOINT Community Development / Finance Meeting Minutes

Moved by Mr. Cerra, second by Mrs. Mitchell to approve the above meeting minutes.

2. The matter of a Downtown Facade Improvement Program Application for Big O Enterprises, LLC.

REFERRED BY: Director Calvert

Dir Calvert said an application was received for the said grant for 212 East Ave., for Big O Enterprises for their business which will be called Elmer's Ice Cream. The grant application is for windows and signage. The amount being requested is \$18,912.58 which would allow for an eligible reimbursement amount of \$9,456.29.

The applicants, John and Cynthia Oleksiak are on the call to answer questions.

They introduced themselves and they spoke about their new ice cream shop. The establishment will offer ice cream, sandwiches and snacks. They have already interviewed and hired 15 high school students to work in the shop which will be the main staff along with John and Cindy.

They are looking forward to opening soon.

Mr. Tollett thanked them investing in our community!

Community Development Motion:

Mr. Cerra moved and Mr. Jessie seconded to recommend an ordinance to authorize approval of the 'said' application which was approved by the Elyria Economic Development Committee.

Finance Motion:

Mr. Baird moved and Mrs. Davis seconded to recommend an ordinance to authorize approval of the 'said' application which was approved by the Elyria Economic Development Committee.

MOTION MADE

COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

3. The matter of a Covid-19 Emergency Loan Application for Affirmed Home Health, LLC.

REFERRED BY: Director Calvert

Dir Calvert reminded the committee that this program was brought for approval when the City rec'd the CDBG Covid allocation funds, this emergency loan was created. It allows up to \$5,000 in loans to be given to small businesses that have been negatively impacted by Covid-19. The loan has a three-year term at a zero interest rate and if the business is able to maintain at least one low to moderate income employee for 3 months after the receipt of the loan funds, then the loan is completely forgiven. We rec'd about 6 applications for this program, but only 2 loan applications have been approved because they met the program requirements.

The first application is from Affirmed Home Health, LLC. This is a start-up business which will provide comfort care services to those impacted by a variety of health conditions including covid-19. They are requesting the loan to assist with hiring, marketing, building a website and promoting their business. The EEDC met last Friday. All the qualifications have been met and they were approved.

Community Development Motion:

Mr. Cerra moved and Mr. Jessie seconded to recommend an ordinance to authorize the approval of the 'said' loan application which was approved by the Elyria Economic Development Committee.

Finance Motion:

Mr. Baird moved and Mrs. Davis seconded to recommend an ordinance to authorize the approval of the 'said' loan application which was approved by the Elyria Economic Development Committee.

MOTION MADE

COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

4. The matter of a Covid-19 Emergency Loan Application for Susan's Sugar and Spice, LLC.

REFERRED BY: Director Calvert

Dir Calvert said this is the second emergency loan application, which was approved by the Elyria Economic Development Committee. Sugar & Spice has 2 locations at Midway Mall. The business began by focusing on cakes for special occasions. Weddings were her number one business for cakes and with covid, that part of the business declined. The owner has diversified the business and now offers sandwiches, which is in the food court of the mall. And she will expand by offering a food truck. She is hoping this assistance will help her retain 4 employees and possibly hire more. The EEDC's approval was on condition that all local taxes are up to date and current.

Councilperson Mitchell said that she has a concern with the business being located at the mall. There is no foot traffic at the mall.

Dir Calvert said she has had conversations with the business owner regarding that. But it's less impactful for the cake business because that side of the business doesn't rely on foot traffic.

The other part of the business is located in the Food Court and that there is enough foot traffic to service that population and since there are so few other food options.

Community Development Motion:

Mr. Cerra moved and Mr. Jessie seconded to recommend an ordinance to authorize the approval of the 'said' loan application which was approved by the Elyria Economic Development Committee.

Finance Motion:

Mr. Baird moved and Mrs. Davis seconded to recommend an ordinance to authorize the approval of the 'said' loan application which was approved by the Elyria Economic Development Committee.

MOTION MADE

COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

Mr. Baird said these funds are there to help those businesses that could have a difficult time getting commercial help and that's what the money is for and he wishes them much success.

5. The matter of a Renewal of the Finwood Apartment Lease for Inez James.

[Standing Referral]

REFERRED BY: Parks Director Reardon

Parks Dir Reardon said this is a lease that will be up on June 30th and this new lease will go into effect on July 1st. Same tenant, same amount.

Mrs. Mitchell asked what the terms of the lease are?

Dir Reardon said it's for 1 year and it's \$450 per month.

Community Development Motion:

Mr. Cerra moved and Mrs. Mitchell seconded to recommend an ordinance to authorize the 'said' lease agreement with Inez James for the Finwood apartment to begin on July 1st, 2021.

(Amended to add Emergency clause) Mr. Cerra and Mrs. Mitchell concur.

MOTION MADE (All in favor)

Finance Motion:

Mrs. Davis moved and Mr. Baird seconded to recommend an ordinance to authorize the 'said' lease agreement with Inez James for the Finwood apartment to begin on July 1st, 2021.

MOTION MADE COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

(Amended to add Emergency clause) Mr. Baird and Mrs. Davis concur.

MOTION MADE (All in favor)

Mr. Cerra moved and second by Mrs. Mitchell to adjourn this evening's Community Development portion of the Meeting at 6:30 P.M.

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted by,

*Colleen Rosado,
Council Clerk Secretary*

(Committee Meeting was attended by Secretary Rosado ~ Meeting Minutes were transcribed by Secretary Rosado)