

CITY OF UNION
Economic Development Committee
January 20, 2021 (via Zoom Videoconferencing)

Members in attendance:

Eric Dulaney, Commissioner

James Collett

Jeff Bowman

John Cole

Steve Harper, BCPC Union Representative

David Plummer, City Administrator

Melissa Hinkle, Communications and Operations Director

Mayor Larry Solomon

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Commissioner Eric Dulaney.

Mayor Introduction: Mayor Larry Solomon introduced Commissioner Eric Dulaney as the new chairman of the group. Mr. Dulaney gave a brief biographical introduction and statement of interests to the group and announced he was excited for the new challenge of the EDC.

Boone County Planning Update: Mr. Harper advised that the Grammas Development proposal was passed by the Boone County Planning Commission and will be headed to the Union City Commission for consideration in January. He also updated on a development near Callie Way on property owned by Dr. Wright. Fischer Homes will be developing 47 multi-family townhomes and duplexes with an HOA. This development has also been approved by Boone County and is expected to be sent to the commission for consideration in February. Part of this development is seeking to transfer a series of currently private roads to city maintenance. Administrator Plummer is working with Engineer Burke and the developers to ensure the roads are brought up to Public Standards before this transfer of assets would be considered. Mayor Solomon asked about development at the Dr. Wright property at the corner of US42 and Frogtown. Mr. Harper stated that he is not aware of any development plan at this location and none has been submitted to BCPC.

Small Business Grant Programs: Administrator Plummer updated that there were eight applicants for round two, with more than \$85,000 in grant requests. These grants were approved and disbursed after the December commission meeting. Director Hinkle also updated on a program of waivers that Governor Beshear has approved of ABC licensing fees at the state level to provide economic relief to businesses impacted by closures during the COVID-19 pandemic. A request to waive the corresponding city ABC license fees was approved at the January commission meeting, waiving more than \$6000 worth of license fees for local small businesses.

New Business: Administrator Plummer updated the group on the Grammas Family Trust Property. This property will be up for a second reading at the Union City Commission meeting on February 1, to approve the zoning amendment overlays approved by the BCPC. Pending approval, this property is good to go and hopes to move dirt this year on the development.

Administrator Plummer also noted that the Union Pointe Development at the Dr. Wright property is moving forward at BCPC and is expected to be approved.

Mayor Larry Solomon updated that Strong's Brick Iron Pizza is coming to a former residence located at the corner of Callie Way and Frogtown, near the Union Pointe Development. This restaurant is expected to open in early spring 2021. Boomtown Biscuits and Whiskey will be opening in the old Sugarfire BBQ location at the Kroger development sometime in February or early March, and a Mexican restaurant named Ville Escondito will be opening in the former Flipdaddy's location. No opening date has been announced, but renovations are already underway at the location.

Mr. Collett asked about the placement of monument markers following the completion of the Mt. Zion road construction. These markers are necessary for him to obtain an accurate survey of his property located at the corner of Mt. Zion and US42. Administrator Plummer will follow up with Anthony Griggs at KYTC to see what is the status of these markers.

Tuesday, February 17 at 6 p.m. was set for the next meeting date, due to the Holiday season and other conflicts. The location will be via Zoom, due to member travel and work commitments. The public is invited to attend.

The Meeting was formally adjourned at 6:43 pm by Commissioner Dulaney.