



MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 7, 2016
8:00 AM

Committee Members Present:

Brandon Hackett, Pamela Milliken, David Smoak, Knick Myers, Jim Holladay, Naoko Blue, William Britt, Drew Carson, Alderman Ron Pinchok

Committee Members Absent:

Phil Dangel

Staff Present:

Mark Shipley, Jenn Hatmaker

Other:

Alderman Louise Povlin

Bettye Sisco, Farragut / West Knox Chamber

Herc Ligdis, Farragut Business Alliance

Barbara O'Brien, Casual Pint

Ben Pounds with the FarragutPress

Alderman Ron Williams

Tim Williams, Farragut / West Knox Chamber

Pat O'Brien, Casual Pint

Bob Hill, Farragut Citizen

Call to Order

Chair Hackett called the meeting to order. A quorum was declared.

Approval of the Minutes

Alderman Pinchok moved to approve the August 3, 2016 minutes. Mr. Holladay seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mr. Hackett requested that any citizen comments be held until the end of the discussion of the agenda item.

Status Updates

a. Town of Farragut: Presented by Mr. Smoak

- i. Chili's and Dairy Queen will be opening soon; Bank of America is approximately 60 days from opening

- ii. The Tourism Subcommittee received an email from Sue Stuhl outlining the current public relations and marketing efforts by the Town

Aldermen Pinchok stated that Sue Stuhl is currently working on a Request for Qualifications for Branding and is hoping to have a consultant within 30 days. Alderman Pinchok stated he would like to have the consultant attend an upcoming Economic Development Committee (EDC) meeting, as well as a representative from Visit Knoxville and Jill Thompson with the Greater Knoxville Hospitality Association.

b. Farragut / West Knox Chamber of Commerce: Presented by Ms. Sisco

- i. 13 new businesses joined the Chamber
- ii. 4 networking events in August – 2 of those were in the Town
- iii. Had first Ambassador's meeting at Town Hall
- iv. Presented to the Rotary Club
- v. New Fall intern, Sam Landon, will write the Who's Who column
- vi. NAI networking will be at Rosarito's on September 8
- vii. The Fall New Member Orientation will be on September 13, 2016 at Town Hall at 7:30am-9am
- viii. Dr. Bass and John Jefferson will speak at the breakfast on October 4 at Fox Den

c. Farragut Business Alliance: Presented by Mr. Ligdis

- i. Allison Sousa resigned as Executive Director effective August 22. Started the search for her replacement; had two interviews so far.
- ii. Planning for the Farragut Food and Wine Festival is underway; the band The Coveralls performing that evening
- iii. Will no longer be doing the Red, White and Blues event
- iv. Knoxville Track Club Farragut ½ Marathon will be on October 29, 2016. The FBA has partnered with the Knoxville Track Club on a virtual goody bag which will utilize the Shop Farragut App. Will also have a tent on site to promote area business. Previously had 1200-1500 people attend the half marathon.

Mobile Food Vending Discussion

Mr. Smoak stated that currently mobile food trucks are only permitted during special events and businesses are allowed up to four special events per year. Mr. Shipley reviewed the mobile vending memo and report to the Planning Commission. Mr. Shipley stated that the City of Knoxville established zones to allow mobile food vending. Mr. Shipley stated that enforcement would be an issue for staff. Mr. Shipley stated that the Town would not receive sales tax revenue from the mobile vendors unless the vendor's main office is located within the Town. Dr. O'Brien stated that on the nights when food trucks were present, the Casual Pint saw a 30.2% increase in revenue. Dr. O'Brien stated that the National League of Cities released a report on mobile food vending on how to establish zones and regulations.

Dr. O'Brien stated that the City of Knoxville has a very comprehensive checklist to be approve mobile vendors and the Town could have reciprocity agreement with the City of Knoxville to cut down on the Town's work load to approve mobile vendors. Mr. Williams stated that the City of Knoxville's mobile vending certification allows mobile vendors to operate anywhere in the state where mobile vending is allowed. Mr. Carson stated that the Town could do a two year pilot program. Mr. Hackett stated that he would be curious to know how the brick and mortar establishments would feel about the pilot program. Mr. Hill stated that the Town should look at the law to see if the sales tax should go to the city/county where the mobile vendor's office is located or to the city/county where the sales were completed. Mr. Carson stated that if the Town is concerned about losing sales tax revenue that the Town could charge a permit fee that has to be renewed. Mr. Shipley recommended forming a subcommittee that can research mobile vending.

Mr. Britt made a motion to move forward reviewing mobile vending ordinances. Mr. Carson seconded. Alderman Pinchok, Chair Hackett, Mr. Myers, Mr. Holladay, Ms. Blue, Mr. Britt, and Mr. Carson voted in favor; Ms. Milliken voted against. Motion passed.

Chair Hackett stated that a subcommittee would be a good idea and should be open to more people than just EDC members. Chair Hackett asked for volunteers to serve on the subcommittee. Alderman Pinchok, Mr. Holladay, Mr. Carson, Mr. Britt and Ms. Blue volunteered to serve as EDC representatives on the subcommittee; Ms. Milliken volunteered to serve on the subcommittee as a brick and mortar business representative. Alderman Povlin stated that the EDC should reach out to brick and mortar businesses to volunteer to serve on the subcommittee. Mr. Shipley stated that the subcommittee should not be very large.

Any Other Business

Mr. Hill presented a letter requesting the EDC to look at the Farragut Business Alliance Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Town since the resignation of Allison Sousa.

Mr. Carson moved to adjourn. Ms. Milliken seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Next meeting Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at 8 AM in the Town Hall Board Room.