

Amended Minutes for the Livingston Urban Renewal Agency (URA)

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, April 3, 2019; 8:30 a.m.

East Room

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order – 8:35 a.m. -Attendance – Warren Mabie, Bob Ebinger, Matt Whitman, Rick VanAken, Lisa Harreld, Karla Pettit**

2. **Consent Items**
 - **Welcome Rick VanAken** – Rick was warmly welcomed to the group and he gave a brief introduction. Welcome Rick!
 - **Approve Minutes from regular 11.28.18 meeting** – Minutes not approved as Kyra not in attendance. (There was a meeting January 16, 2019, however there was no quorum.)

3. **Old/Continuing Discussion Items**
 - **Update on bonding and financial status** – The bonding process was completed in January 2019. The URA will need more complete information to plan for future projects. The URA requests either City Manager or Finance Director be available for the next URA meeting (May 15).

 - **Discuss potential future projects to fund with remaining URA bond funds** – Karla stated her preference for future projects would be 1) residential sidewalks and 2) the façade program. There was general agreement to her informal proposal. More specific information will be forthcoming in future months as to how much money will actually be available.

Matt Whitman indicates that the residential sidewalks in the URA district are not currently planned on 2nd and 3rd streets. The money will be set aside for when the project actually gets closer to becoming reality. A small portion of residential on Clark Street will take place this year, in conjunction with the rest of the downtown project, it will only be about ½ of a block. For future URA residential sidewalks, Matt recommends having individual homeowners apply for the sidewalk funding on an individual basis. He recommends sending a letter to all affected URA district residential property owners informing them of the application process. It will be cheaper to do the sidewalks individually. This is still all very preliminary. The funding won't be available for another 5-6 years.

Karla said several downtown owners have asked about the façade program. The group will need to determine how to handle future requests for façade program money. Several applications for façade funding are still out there, which were submitted prior to the spending moratorium, and have not been

voted on.

- **By-laws** – It is time to review the by-laws. Warren said the URA was created to remove blight. The definition of blight may have changed. The committee determines the definition. By-laws will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

4. Scheduled Public Comment – Matt Whitman said the downtown project is starting Monday, starting with the sewer on Clark and B Street and heading west. Projected completion in August. The parade route will be altered again this year. The City will work with the Chamber to come up with an excellent route, depending on how far along the project is as of July 2. Progress meetings will be held every Thursday at 8:30 am at ERA Landmark. Karla mentioned she and Laura Bray have issues with the cement in front of their buildings.

5. Action Item

- **DISCUSS/APPROVE/DENY – Discuss recruiting new URA members** – With the addition of Rick VanAken the membership is up to 4 members; will continue to work on recruiting a 5th member. Karla mentioned Cyndy Rigler who works at one of the banks and has financial expertise, may be interested.

6. Progress Reports –

- **5th to 8th street project** – Matt Whitman reported on this sewer project upsizing pipes from 8” to 15” between Front Street and Chinook.

7. URA Commission Comments

- Bob welcomed Rick to the URA.
- Rick is looking forward to working with the URA and overcoming any obstacles that need to be addressed.
- Karla brought up the issue that Clark Smith has taken it on himself to put back on 3 benches on Main Street. The benches are located at Callender next to the Mint, across the street from the Mint and one near the underpass. The cost was a line item in the URA budget and the question is whether that money is still available to pay Clark for completing the benches. The issue will be voted on at the next URA meeting in May.

8. Public Comments (Public comments proceeding the regular meeting adjournment. No votes taken and no decisions made.)

Bob made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:45am. Rick seconded. All in favor. The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 15 at 8:30 am.