

City Council
COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

July 12, 2018 Meeting

The Community and Economic Development Committee (CEDC) met on July 12, 2018 with Councilmembers Kelly McGill, Rob Johnson, Elizabeth Callaghan; and Patricia Love, Community Development Director. In addition, Tim Schmitt, local resident attended.

1. *Election of Committee Chair*

Elizabeth Callahan was elected as the 2018 Committee Chair.

2. *Revisions to Economic Development Board Resolution*

The Economic Development Board was established in 2014 to act as a liaison group between the business community and the City. Resolution 2014-04 (Exhibit 1) established an initial four (4) year Board term after which its effectiveness was to be evaluated and reconvened for a longer term as determined by the City Council. The initial four (4) year term expired on March 27, 2018.

The Committee recommended that the Resolution be renewed for an additional four (4) year term and be added to the next Council meeting agenda.

3. *Glass Quest Addendum #2*

Glass Quest is a popular 10-day treasure hunt in Stanwood and Camano Island held each February where people search for “clue balls” containing tickets for unique hand-blown glass balls. In 2017 and 2018 the City entered into a contract agreement with the Camano Island Chamber of Commerce to support the Glass Quest event in the amount of \$2,500 per year. The Camano Island Chamber is requesting that the City continue their sponsorship of the event for the next budget biennium (2019-2020) in the amount of \$5,000: \$2,500 per year.

The Committee would like to see Glass Quest fall under the community events grant program recently approved by the Council. However, they did support continued sponsorship of the event in 2019 under the following terms:

1. Contract addendum for \$2,500 for 2019
2. After 2019, the event should fall under the community event grant program
3. Funds should be used for marketing and advertising; not staffing expenses
4. The Chamber needs to provide supporting data on how they are tracking participants and at the end of the event the number of people who participated in the event.

4. *Final Plat Procedures Code Amendment*

Changes in state law recently granted local governments the authority to administratively approve final plats. Stanwood has historically required final plats (subdivisions of 10 or more lots) to be approved by the City Council. The new law allows a jurisdiction’s administrative staff, such as the Community Development and Public Works

Director, to approve final plats if the project conforms to the conditions of approval and the associated infrastructure is in place.

The Committee did not feel comfortable with changes that would take the final plat review (ensuring that all the conditions of preliminary plat approval have been met) out of the control of the City Council. The Planning Commission should still hold a public hearing on the matter and forward a recommendation to the Council. Staff will relay the Committee's concern about maintaining local control over final plats to the Planning Commission.

5. Industrial Zones Performance Standards

The Planning Commission has been working on a draft code amendment that includes new performance standards for the Light and General Industrial zones to reduce potential impacts generated by industrial uses that could be bothersome to adjoining commercial or residential neighborhoods. Since the last Committee meeting two new sections were added to the draft amendment:

- Added a new section: Submittal Requirements. This section puts the burden on the applicant to provide proof of compliance with the performance standards and gives the City authority to ask for special studies at the applicants cost if needed. It also gives the City the authority to recover any costs for peer review for technical expertise when needed to fully evaluate a proposal.
- Added a new section: Enforcement. This section provides that violations of the performance standards is subject to the City's enforcement procedures and that the City has the authority to issue either stop work or emergency notices halting any activity that violates the code until corrective actions are implemented.

The Committee was supportive of the proposed amendments.

6. Planning Commission Extended Agenda

Staff shared the Planning Commission's extended agenda with the Committee and noted that the agenda is a living document that will be updated and changed as needed. The Committee would like to see issues before they go to the Planning Commission and/or before a public hearing is scheduled so that they can provide comments on the issue under consideration.