

Riverfront Improvement Commission
Minutes
January 26, 2021

Present (Physical): Bill Ashton, Dee Bruemmer, Neil Kosman, Breanna Pairrett, and Pat Walton

Present (Virtual): Bill Churchill, Kelli Grubbs, Randall Goblirsch, Tom Guy, Julie Tonn

Others Present: Ald. Judith Lee, City Council; Bill Handel, Citizen; and Steve Ahrens, Riverfront Improvement Commission

Chairman Bruemmer called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. Ahrens announced that a quorum for the meeting had been met, and instructions were provided regarding tonight's meeting protocol.

Walton moved to approve the minutes of the November 24, 2020 meeting. Kosman seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

Finance

Ahrens presented the previous two month's disbursements, aged receivables report and the FY2021 Lease Report. Walton moved to approve the disbursements. Pairrett seconded the motion and it carried.

Leases

Ahrens requested the retroactive approval for an additional month's (January) rental for the Miracle at the Freight House. Pairrett moved to approve the request. Kosman seconded the motion and it carried.

Staff presented for the Commission's initial review the lease renewal agreement with the Freight House Farmer's Market. The Commission will consider the agreement at its next meeting.

Staff introduced the lease renewal agreement with Antonella's II Pizzeria. The Commission will consider the agreement at its next meeting.

Projects

Ahrens presented the FY2022 Levee Fund Recommended Operating Budget, which included providing an update on the financial condition of the Levee Fund for the current fiscal year. Following the presentation, the Commission discussion included: highlights for various CIP Projects for existing FY2021 and upcoming FY2022 as well as for the Levee Fund Operating Budget. The Commission will consider the adoption of the FY2022 operating budget at its next meeting.

Staff briefly discussed the RiverWest Plan Report and reminded the Commission that he has invited the City Council to discuss the report as soon as it is practicable to do so.

Staff provided an update regarding both the interior and exterior post flood restoration projects for Union Station, including Visit Quad Cities initiating the buildout with a spring opening and FEMA reviewing the City's Flood Mitigation project proposal.

Ahrens provided an update regarding the Canadian Pacific permanent restoration of the railroad crossings and related work. In addition, Chair Bruemmer relayed to the Commission the recent recognition by the City Council and Mayor thanking the work group for its diligent work with Canadian Pacific on the riverfront railroad crossings. Bruemmer further recommended that a similar group be formed and utilized to review the findings of the flood study and to suggest an implementation framework to be considered by Council.

Staff Report

Chair Bruemmer provided a report for the Commission, including the initiation of a performance evaluation for staff. She requested Commissioners respond to her prior to the next meeting with evaluative comments to be shared with Ahrens.

Other Business

Bill Handel, a citizen, provided comments to the Commission regarding the riverfront. With no additional public with business to present to the Commission, and with no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.



Neil Kosman, Secretary