

**CITY OF CARROLLTON
SPECIAL JOINT COUNCIL MEETING
WITH ECONOMIC VITALITY COMMITTEE**

CITY HALL

**APRIL 23, 2018
5:30 P.M.**

PRESENT

MAYOR: ROBB ADAMS

**COUNCIL: KEVIN CRAIG
JEFF DICKOW
MIKE GORDON
DOUG HILL
DWIGHT LOUDEN**

ATTORNEY FOR CITY: JAKE THOMPSON

ASSISTANT CITY CLERK: BETH TOOMBS

ABSENT: COUNCILWOMAN HAYLEY FRANKLIN

**GUESTS: CARROLLTON MAIN STREET ECONOMIC
VITALITY COMMITTEE:
HILLARY ARNEY, PRESIDENT
MALCOLM CARRACO
SHARON CAMPBELL
GARY MATHIS
SAM BURGESS
DEBORAH GARRETT, MAIN STREET BOARD
JEFF MOORE, MAIN STREET BOARD PRESIDENT
MATT LIPE, MAIN STREET BOARD
DONNA PARRISH, MAIN STREET BOARD
ERICA BOWERS, MAIN STREET BOARD
KEVIN MOORE, MAIN STREET BOARD**

CALL TO ORDER

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT THE HOUR OF 5:30 P.M. BY MAYOR ADAMS. THE MAYOR DECIDED TO FOREGO THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION.

DISCUSSION OF RENT SUPPORT PROGRAM

ATTORNEY FOR THE CITY, JAKE THOMPSON, SAID HE HAD INCORPORATED CHANGES THAT COUNCILMEN GORDON AND LOUDEN HAD SUGGESTED AT THE LAST JOINT MEETING. HE HASN'T RECEIVED ACCEPTANCE FROM THE ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE. HE SAID ALL INCENTIVES HAVE BEEN TAKEN OUT EXCEPT SIGNAGE AND FACADE. RENT SUBSIDY PAYMENTS MAY BE USED TO PAY A MORTGAGE IF, AND ONLY IF, THE BUSINESS AND BUILDING OWNER ARE THE SAME. FUNDS WILL ONLY BE DISBURSED TO PAY A MORTGAGE AFTER PROOF HAS BEEN PRESENTED TO THE CITY THAT THE PRIOR MONTH'S MORTGAGE PAYMENT HAS BEEN PAID. THE RENT SUBSIDY PAYMENT WOULD BE PAID JOINTLY TO THE BUSINESS/PROPERTY OWNER AND THE BANK HOLDING THE MORTGAGE.

MR. BURGESS QUESTIONED WHY THE PROGRAM FUNDING PART WAS DELETED. HIS CONCERN WAS AN ORDINATED AMOUNT OF MONEY WAS ALWAYS GUARANTEED TO BE ALLOTTED FOR FUNDING. COUNCILMAN LOUDEN SAID \$50,000 WOULD BE BUDGETED EVERY FISCAL YEAR. IT WAS EXPLAINED THAT SEVERAL CHECKING ACCOUNTS WILL BE CLOSED BY THE END OF THIS FISCAL YEAR AND THERE WILL BE A SEPARATE LINE ITEM FOR EACH. MR. BURGESS SAID NOTHING SPEAKS OF GUARANTEED FUNDING. MAYOR ADAMS SAID \$30,000 FROM THE EIP CHECKING ACCOUNT WAS PUT IN THE NEW LINE ITEM FOR THE NEW BUDGET YEAR. MR. BURGESS SAID \$55,000 SAT IN THE ACCOUNT FOR TWO YEARS AND HASN'T BEEN TOUCHED. HE ASKED WHAT OTHER FUNDS WERE CUT PROPORTIONATELY. MAYOR ADAMS EXPLAINED \$215,000 WAS CUT FROM CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS. EVERY DEPARTMENT WAS ASKED TO CUT ANOTHER 5%. MRS. ARNEY ASKED IF THEY WOULD KNOW HOW MUCH THE ACCOUNT WOULD HAVE THE BEGINNING OF EACH FISCAL YEAR. COUNCILMAN CRAIG SAID THE DOLLAR AMOUNT CAN BE CHANGED EVERY FISCAL YEAR, DEPENDING ON THE NEEDS OF THE PROGRAM.

IT WAS POINTED OUT BY MR. BURGESS THAT ONE MEMBER OF THE DESIGN REVIEW BOARD IS SUPPOSED TO BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CARROLL COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION. THIS HAS NOT BEEN FOLLOWED. IT WAS AGREED TO CHANGE THAT THE DESIGN REVIEW BOARD SHALL CONSIST OF FIVE AT LARGE MEMBERS, APPOINTED BY THE MAYOR.

COUNCILMAN LOUDEN SAID THE APPENDIX, WHICH IS THE PROCEDURE CHECKLIST, SHOULD BE TAKEN OUT. THE CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/BUILDING INSPECTOR TAKES CARE OF THAT INFORMATION.

MAYOR ADAMS ASKED IF THE MAIN STREET BOARD AND COUNCIL WERE READY FOR THE FIRST READING OF THE ORDINANCE. THEY AGREED THE FIRST READING COULD BE AT THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING, MAY 14.

MATT LIPE TOLD OF HOW TWO SISTERS IN NEW ORLEANS SPENT \$12,000 IN 2015 AND BUILT A SMALL MOVIE THEATER. THEY NETTED \$11,000 PROFIT THE FIRST YEAR. AFTER TWO YEARS, THEY PURCHASED A BUILDING AND HAVE A FULL-FLEDGED THEATER. MR. LIPE SAID IT WOULD BE NICE TO RE-CREATE THE RICHLAND THEATER. WE COULD HAVE A THEATER AND AN OPERA/PLAY HOUSE WITH A SMALL STAGE.

MR. BURGESS SUGGESTED DOING ANOTHER MARKET SURVEY. HE SAID WE COULD EVEN PUT IT IN THE NEWS DEMOCRAT OR USE SURVEY MONKEY. WE COULD SEE IF THE BUSINESSES ARE STILL AT THE FOREFRONT OF WHAT IS NEEDED AND WANTED IN DOWNTOWN. MAYOR ADAMS SAID HE DIDN'T THINK THERE WOULD BE MUCH CHANGE AND HATED TO PAY SOMEONE TO DO ANOTHER SURVEY. IT WAS DECIDED THAT GARY MATHIS WILL DO A SURVEY THROUGH SURVEY MONKEY.

MR. BURGESS TOLD COUNCIL HE APPRECIATED THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK TOGETHER ON THIS PROJECT.

ADJOURNMENT

THE MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN LOUDEN AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN GORDON AND DULY CARRIED TO STAND IN ADJOURNMENT AT THE HOUR OF 6:02 P.M.

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ATTEST:

ROBB W. ADAMS, MAYOR

BETH A. TOOMBS, ASS'T CITY CLERK