

**City of Lodi Economic Development Committee Meeting
Minutes of April 13, 2021**

Call to Order.

Chair Hansen called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Committee Members Present: Eric Hansen (Chair), Rich Stevenson and Peter Tonn

Others Present: Julie Ostrander, Brenda Ayers, Terry Weter

Meeting Etiquette Announcement. Hansen skipped the meeting etiquette since no members of the public were present.

Public Input. None.

Approve Minutes October 13, 2020 and Closed Session Minutes. MOTION (Stevenson, Tonn) to approve the regular and closed session minutes from October 13, 2020. Motion carried.

Financials. No questions or comments.

Update from Lodi Lake Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce. McMorris provided a written report.

Update from Ice Age Trail Community. Onofrey provided a written report.

Mammoth Hike Challenge Information. Onofrey provided a written report.

Discussion and Possible Recommendation Regarding an Agreement with Wisconsin & Southern Railroad for Preliminary Engineering For Preliminary Design of New Railroad Structure to Support Proposed Storm water Conveyance- TID 3). The railroad raised a concern when the City applied for permits for the stormwater project near the walkway adjacent to Dollar General. The railroad suggested that the City could leave the walkway in place if they move the waterway north and drill a new water hole under the trestle. The City is unable to lower the waterway because the trestle does not have a solid foundation. The lease agreement for the walkway can be revoked by the railroad at any time. The railroad recently indicated they will come up with a solution if the City allows their engineers to conduct a study at cost to the City of \$30,000. Stevenson expressed hesitation to invest the money when unsure of what the City will get from it. The railroad has plans to change out the trestle and add a concrete box drain for stormwater conveyance in the next five years. The railroad plans to eliminate the pipe that conveys water from Joyce Drive and it would be up to the City to install a new structure to convey water to the railroad's box drain. Their plan also eliminates the sidewalk. The railroad has suggested that in order to keep the sidewalk the City could dig a culvert 30 yards north at an additional cost of \$100,000. Weter noted that the railroad has done projects in other areas including the City of Madison that involve a pedestrian crossing with stormwater underneath. Since WisDOT owns the property it was suggested that the City ask WisDOT to push the railroad to work with the City to accommodate pedestrian traffic. Weter will convey the discussions from this meeting to the City Engineer. It was the consensus of the committee not to make a recommendation on the agreement with Wisconsin & Southern Railroad.

Discussion and Possible Recommendation regarding the Pedestrian Bridge Behind City Hall Including Grant Opportunities. Weter noted that the City has discussed the bridge construction for a couple years. The original cost estimate was \$71,405 and due to increase in material costs the new estimate is \$92,826. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) offers grant funding with a 50% match if enough points are scored. The City's share of the funding would come from the TID(s). Weter noted the bridge would be constructed to hold 10,000 pounds. Tonn inquired about incorporating the full Spring Creek Walkway concept into the grant application. It was noted that the

walkway has been incorporated into the City's CORP and Comprehensive Plans. If there is enough detail in the conceptual drawing of the walkway and a cost estimate is available for the walkway, Weter will incorporate the walkway into the May 1 grant application.

MOTION (Tonn, Stevenson) to recommend submitting a DNR grant application for cost sharing of the pedestrian bridge (behind City Hall) project. **Motion carried.**

Next Meeting and Agenda Items. The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 4 p.m. at City Hall.

Adjourn. MOTION (Stevenson, Tonn) to adjourn at 4:59 p.m. **Motion carried.**

Minutes by Brenda Ayers, City Clerk

APPROVED