

MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
March 21, 2018

The meeting of the Libertyville Economic Development Commission was called to order at 7:36 a.m. at Indian Motors Libertyville, 416 N Milwaukee Ave, Libertyville, IL.

Members Present: Chairman John Cortesi, Commissioners William Abington, Brian Grano, Thomas Kreuser, and Steve Martin

Members Absent: Commissioners Jeff Mateer and Edward Werdell

Staff Present: Heather Rowe, Economic Development Coordinator and John Spoden, Director of Community Development

Others Present: Fred Kestler, Main Street Libertyville

Minutes: The Commission approved the minutes of the January meeting.

Chairman Cortesi opened the meeting and thanked Indian for hosting. Mr. Gaines welcomed the Commission.

NEW BUSINESS:

Places for Eating Tax: Patrice Sutton, Finance Director for the Village provided an update on tax collection from the Places for Eating tax which began late 2016. The Village now has a full year of data available, numbers indicate collections slightly above the predicted amount. She noted the Village Board is scheduled to vote regarding the continuation of the tax for a three year period. Ms. Sutton explained that the funds collected are not specifically earmarked but rather go into the Village's General Revenue fund to cover overall expenses, as per the Board direction. This helps to ensure the Village can continue to cover costs in light of declining receipts in other areas, including funds collected by the State which have been reduced/redirected [she indicated these were reviewed in the Budget presentation which she will forward to the Commission]. Ms. Sutton described how the Village continues to spend a considerable amount on Economic Development, business and tourism promotion, and business district improvements/maintenance and how the tax collection assists in continuation of these efforts. A summary of such expenditures would be provided to the Commission.

Discussion with Indian Motors: Todd Gaines, co-owner of Indian Motors of Libertyville welcomed the Commission and reviewed the services provided by the dealership. He noted that the location in the Village's downtown has been an asset to the dealership. The Commissioners noted that as a destination business, it's also brought visitors to the downtown to frequent other businesses. The dealership has been recognized as #8 in the country for sales and #1 for customer satisfaction. The Commission continued to discuss the operation and any business needs with Mr. Gaines. An inquiry was made relative to need for motorcycle parking.

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COMMUNICATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS:

Review of Pending Development: Mr. Spoden and Ms. Rowe reviewed pending development and development interest at the Young, Foulds, Libertyville Corporate Center, BridgePoint94 and other sites.

Other: Commissioner Kreuser mentioned that the vacant Graham-owned parcel at the southeast corner of Milwaukee & 176 could be a good location for a community information sign. The Commission expressed interest in the following topics for future meetings: Sports marketing, review of sales tax comparison, Innovation Park business recruitment, and a review/update of the Economic Development Strategy.

The Chairman asked Main Street Libertyville for available updates. Mr. Kestler noted that Farmers Market begins in May with about 45 participating vendors. He also mentioned that Main Street is working to replace ChefFest with another fundraising event, possibly a “Night at the (Dunn) Museum” event. He indicated they are considering utilizing reserve funds towards downtown wayfinding signs near the park, parking garage and/or train station. He invited the Commissioners to attend and/or sponsor the June golf outing.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Rowe
Economic Development Coordinator