

**Cuyahoga Falls City Council
Minutes of the Community Development Committee**

December 5, 2016

Members: Adam Miller, Chair
Vic Pallotta
Paul Colavecchio

Mr. Miller called the meeting to order at 6:41 p.m. All members were present.

The minutes from the September 19, 2016 Community Development Committee meeting were approved as written.

Legislation Discussed:

Temp. Ord. A-94

Discussion:

Temp. Ord. A-94

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Community Development to amend the Community Reinvestment Area Tax Exemption Agreement with Menard Incorporated, and declaring an emergency.

Ms. Diane Sheridan, Development Director, stated that, on September 23rd of 2014, the 50-percent, 10-year property tax abatement for Menard Incorporated was approved. The 2014 application indicated that construction would begin on June 1st of 2015, and be completed by April 15th of 2016. On June 15th of this year, the application was amended to start the construction on May 1st of 2017 and complete construction on May 1st of 2018. The final amendment that Menards would like Council to consider is to remove the month of May from the application. In summary, the construction would start in 2017 and would be completed by 2018. All other details of the application remain the same.

Mr. Pallotta moved to bring out Temp. Ord. A-94 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Colavecchio. Motion passed (3-0).

Mr. Miller stated that wanted to address Mayor Walters this evening, but, unfortunately, the Mayor was not present. He stated that he will address the Mayor in person, but will make a statement tonight. Mr. Miller stated that, last Sunday, he read an article in the Cuyahoga Falls News Press entitled, "The reopening of Front Street was reviewed by City Council." It mentioned that Cuyahoga Falls will not be receiving the Federal grant. He is bringing this up is because, on page 10 of the article, the Mayor did state that the grant was never part of, nor included in the financial plan for Front Street. However, back in April, they were given a pie chart that was entitled "Downtown Cuyahoga Falls Circulation and Economic Transformation Project Budget." Clearly, the TIGER Grant is included in this. When he went to the City website, he found, under Stage One of Planning, Bullet Point 8, that the City was seeking financial sources that included grant dollars. Mr. Miller stated that he wanted to make the public aware of that, because Mayor Walters

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did make a statement that was in the Falls News-Press. To pretend that the grant was never part of the project was, in his opinion, inaccurate. He wants to make sure, moving forward, that everyone is on the same page and communicating, so that Council and the Administration can communicate to the public the facts of these topics, because, at the end of the day, they should be functioning as one team.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.