

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

May 3, 2021

Members: Meika Penta, Chair
Rachel Loza
Adam Miller

Mrs. Penta called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m. All members were present.

Legislation Discussed:

Temp. Ord. B-29

Temp. Ord. B-30

Discussion:

Temp. Ord. B-29

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Community Reinvestment Area Agreement with Harbor Castings, Inc., and declaring an emergency.

Ms. Mary Spaugy, Deputy Director of Community Development, presented Temporary Ordinance B-29 to Council. City Council and the Administration wish to provide assistance to Harbor Castings, Inc. for the construction of a youth basketball training facility, to be leased to David Lane Basketball, LLC, located at 2470 Bailey Road, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221 (Parcel #0212833), at an approximate cost of \$1,400,000.00. The City intends to provide a Community Reinvestment Area Tax Exemption to Harbor Castings, Inc. for a period of 10 years at the rate of 50 percent.

Ms. Spaugy stated that this project has an initial investment of \$1.4 million and will create two permanent and four permanent part-time positions. They are required to notify the Cuyahoga Falls City School District of the proposed CRA agreement. Dr. Nichols and Mr. Lane have agreed to an annual scholarship of \$1,000 to be paid to the Cuyahoga Falls Scholarship Foundation throughout the term of the abatement. They have also agreed to provide clinics and training sessions for Cuyahoga Falls City School youth, middle school and high school basketball teams per year at no charge.

Mr. David Lane gave a brief description of the facility and its uses.

Mr. James stated that Chuck and David Lane know basketball. This is going to be a wonderful gym. There are going to be some kids that will come out that of that gym a heck of a lot better than when they walked in. It is in his ward, and it is going to be a great addition.

Mr. David Lane stated that he is looking forward to getting the basketball culture back in the city and the opportunity for allowing children to go to school for sports specifically. In his opinion, the community needs to get that juice and that power back with the youth sports. Hopefully, this facility can provide that.

Community Development Committee
May 3, 2021 – Page 2

Mr. Gorbach asked what kind of building timeframe they are looking at with this project. Mr. Chuck Lane stated that if they get the wood prices to come down, it will be really quickly. Once this gets submitted for the tax abatement, they would hope to start to clear ground in the next 30 days and hopefully have it under roof and ready to start utilizing sometime this fall. Mr. Gorbach asked if they are planning to proceed or are they going to wait and see how that market goes. Mr. Chuck Lane stated that they do have the pricing already and they are waiting two more quotes to come in. With the pricing he currently has, he is comfortable with proceeding at this time. It is going to take a little while to clear the land, and hopefully they see a break in wood prices in the next three to six months. Mr. Gorbach stated that he looks forward to driving by and seeing it grow out of the ground, and thanked them for investing in the city.

Mr. Balthis stated that he appreciates their investment and, specifically, their partnership with the schools and the annual donation for the scholarship and the programing opportunities they will be providing the community youth.

Mayor Walters gave kudos to Mr. Chuck Lane and his family. He is a wonderful business owner and provides a ton of jobs at Harbor Castings. He has built a beautiful house in Ward 8, so he lives here and then, on top of that, he is going to build this beautiful facility with his son to give back to the youth. He stated that he would like to thank them for all they have done and continue to do in Cuyahoga Falls.

Mrs. Penta stated that it is wonderful to give back to the community. Having a senior graduating this year, those scholarship funds are extremely helpful to pay for college. She is looking forward to seeing that project in the couple months. Mr. Stams congratulated Mr. Chuck Lane and his son. He stated that anything he can do to help, please let him know.

Ms. Loza moved to bring out Temp. Ordinance B-29 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Miller. Motion passed (3-0).

Temp. Ord. B-30

An ordinance approving and authorizing the Mayor to execute a Community Development Block Grant agreement with R2K Contracting, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$67,921.00, and declaring an emergency.

Ms. Peggy Szalay, CDBG Entitlement Administrator, presented Temporary Ordinance B-30 to Council. Renovations and modifications of the first-floor restrooms at the Quirk Cultural Center, located at 1201 Grant Avenue, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44223, are necessary to meet ADA compliance standards. The City of Cuyahoga Falls wishes to enter into a CDBG Agreement with R2K Contracting, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$67,921.00 for ADA-compliant renovations and modifications to the first-floor restrooms at Quirk Cultural Center located at 1201 Grant Avenue, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44223.

Community Development Committee
May 3, 2021 – Page 3

Mrs. Spinner stated that she wanted to express the excitement of having these updates made to Quirk Community Center. It is a gem as part of Ward 2 with the all the wonderful programing that is available there and expanding that programing availability to folks in the community by virtue of these updates is extremely exciting and gratifying. She asked what the timeframe is for start and completion date of this project.

Mr. Michael Fallis, Assistant Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, stated that they are clear to start next week, but, since this is a polling location for the Board of Elections and there is a primary tomorrow, they had to make sure they did not interfere with any election areas. They anticipate a six-week construction timeframe.

Mr. Miller moved to bring out Temp. Ordinance B-30 with a favorable recommendation, second by Ms. Loza. Motion passed (3-0).

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.