Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Greene County Redevelopment Commission July 25, 2019

The regular meeting of the Greene County Redevelopment Commission was held in the Commissioners' Room of the Greene County Courthouse on July 25, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. Present were John Preble, John Mensch, Brian Sparks, and Scott Carmichael. Also present were the Commission attorney Marvin Abshire, and Commissioners Ed Michael and Rick Graves. Absent were Kevin Sparks and Gregg Roudebush.

The meeting opened with a pledge to the flag. The meeting was called to order by John Preble. There was submitted for review and approval the Minutes of the June 13, 2019 regular meeting. After review, a motion was made by John Mensch and seconded by Brian Sparks to waive the reading and approve the Minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The next item of business was the Progress Way lighting update. Two additional lights have been ordered and wiring is complete. The electrical service line for the streetlights was connected to the lift station as a source of electrical power for the lights. At the Commission's request, Marvin Abshire prepared an Indemnification Agreement between the Greene County Redevelopment Commission and the Greene County Regional Sewer District incorporated by reference. A motion was made by John Mensch and seconded by John Preble to approve the Indemnification Agreement as written. The motion passed unanimously.

John Mensch updated the Commission on the hotel project at Progress Pointe. The hotel is awaiting Otis Elevator to finish work. Staffing and furniture are in place and the parking lot looks good, but Mike Hicks is reluctant to announce an opening date at this time due to the elevator delay. John Preble questioned who would need to be contacted to place a hotel sign with the exit sign on I-69. The Commissioners said they will look into it and see what they can find out.

John Mensch updated the Board on WestGate @ Crane Tech Park. On behalf of the WestGate Authority, John Mensch mailed a letter to Bryant Niehoff, Executive Director of Daviess County Economic Development Foundation, firmly opposing Tri-State Trucking moving from its current location to the proposed location near the old Crane school building inside the WestGate @ Crane Technology Park for several reasons. This move does not meet the goal to support the attraction and growth of high-technology businesses. Safety concerns are also a consideration in that the proposed site is too close to homes and tech park buildings, both current and future structures, for storage or ordnance. Traffic congestion is also a concern as the road is narrow and not conducive to truck traffic. A trucking company inside the Tech Park adversely impacts the property values. Also, the Master Plan at WestGate @ Crane Technology Park does not consider this move the highest and best use of the land.

John Mensch reported that IN3 Indiana Innovation Institute at the Academy has a new leader, Steve Kelley, and he has indicated a commitment to live locally, which should improve the engagement of IN3 with its target constituency.

John Mensch also reported on long term funding for WestGate. John went to the IEDC meeting in Indianapolis and learned that eighteen out of twenty-three tech parks are out of state funding. Our tech park is still financially stable for at least for the next year or so. Senate Bill 563, which slashed funding for tech parks, apparently was cut by the governor's office on the last day. Neither State Senator Eric Bassler nor State Senator Mark Messmer are being responsive. It is a long-term issue and hopefully they will amend it in the short session of next year.

John Preble received an email from Randy Baker making an inquiry on behalf of a company wanting to build a heavy towing and recovery hub. They are interested in price and availability of property adjacent to the west side of the Phil Montgomery property on County Line Road or one of the lots across from the fire station. They are looking at areas between Washington and Bloomington along the I-69 area. The Board believes that the location next to INDOT and sewer plant located in Daviess County would be a better location. John Preble will respond to the email and copy other members.

Payment Request 2019-6, in the sum of \$342.50 was submitted for approval. After review, a motion was made by Brian Sparks and seconded by John Mensch to approve the claims. The motion passed unanimously.

Marvin Abshire updated the Commission that he has received email correspondence from Streaming Eagle with a report that all broadband equipment is in place and up and running and they are now ready to solicit customers. Streaming Eagle had some equipment issues which caused a delay.

There being no further business, a motion was made by John Mensch and seconded by Brian Sparks to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVED this 15th day of August, 2019.

John E. Mensch, Secretary