

City of Darien
Minutes Economic Development Committee
Wednesday, July 10, 2019

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:14pm by Chairwoman Tina Beilke Other committee members present were Louis Mallers, Bryan Gay, Matt Weberling, Frank Burns, Robert Hahn, Angelo Imbrogno. Mary Coyle Sullivan, City Counsel Liaison, Joseph Marchese (Mayor), and Bryon Vana (City Administrator) were also present. The meeting was held at Carriage Greens Country Club.

The meeting began with self-introductions of the Committee members and Alderwoman Coyle-Sullivan, Mayor Marchese, and Administrator Vana

2. Public Comment

Lou Ramadani and Heidi Revelis both made comments on behalf of Carriage Greens when Carriage Greens Business Incentive Proposal was discussed. Having experience working at Carriage Greens in different capacities, the vision of the business was discussed as well as new trends and demands in the industry.

3. New Business

a. Purposes and Powers of Committee

Chairwoman Beilke reviewed the ordinance that established the committee as well as several operational aspects of the Committee's work.

b. Workshop - Business Retention/Business Growth

Committee member Bryan Gay provided information about his work background as an economic development professional. He serves as the president and chief executive officer (CEO) of Invest Aurora which is a public/private economic development partnership. Mr. Gay spoke about the program Aurora uses for economic development and spoke generally about economic development practices that can be used in Darien.

c. Mayor's Four Incentive Areas

Mayor Marchese reviewed the priorities for the City's economic development efforts including possible economic incentives that may be needed at Cass/Plainfield Corridor, 75th Street/Lemont Road Corridor, and Carriage Greens Country Club. Mayor Marchese also

discussed additional priorities such as communications with local businesses and the creation of an economic development video.

d. Carriage Greens Business Incentive Proposal

Mayor Marchese introduced the topic of the potential for the City to enter into an economic development agreement with Carriage Greens Country Club. Mayor Marchese provided a summary of items to be covered in the agreement including improvements to the building and grounds, new equipment, the installation of a virtual golf range the availability of the course property for community events, financial assistance from the city, and investment from the club ownership. Chairwoman Beilke introduced the Club owner, Brian Broderick, who provided more detail of the intended improvements. Committee members provided feedback and asked a number of questions about the potential economic development agreement. Mayor Marchese then asked committee members to advise if they supported the economic development agreement concept. Each member provided their opinions and unanimously supported the city moving forward to formalize the agreement.

3. Other Business

The committee discussed other general items such as the Community Reinvestment Act, prioritizing business communications from a business list, and marketing material.

5. Next Scheduled Meeting

The committee discussed meeting dates and determined to set the meeting dates on the second Wednesday of every month.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:24pm and Mr. Broderick offered a tour of the facility for anyone interested.