

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
MAY 1, 2007

In Attendance: Committee Chairperson Luge Hardman, Councilman Jerry Brown, Councilman Mike France, Councilman Pat Howe, Mr. Benjamin Jones with RCGA, City Administrator Bruce Harrill

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m.

Reorganize: Councilman Brown nominated Councilperson Hardman as Chairperson; Councilman France 2nd the motion; all agreed.

Update: Fort Leonard Wood Regional Commerce and Growth Association: Mr. Benjamin Jones with RCGA spoke about the importance of being a part of the RCGA organization and staying "plugged into" Fort Leonard Wood. Fort Leonard Wood is an important part of this community, therefore it is important to know what is happening there. Mr. Jones suggested that the committee bring ideas to the RCGA and let them help the City in areas like marketing or site location for industry. Mr. Harrill thanked Mr. Jones for coming to the committee and invited him to update the Committee and City Council at future meetings.

New Ideas: Marketing & Initiatives: Councilman Hardman asked for new ideas to Market the City. Councilman France suggested updating the City website. Mr. Harrill will look into this. Mr. Harrill has been talking with developers and Warren Davis Properties concerning future development.

Downtown Parking: Councilman Hardman stated that this issue started last year due to complaint by local businesses. Police Chief McCulloch met with the County Commissioners and asked for voluntary compliance from the County workers concerning the Parking issue. Councilman Hardman stated that the meeting with Commissioners brought forth some interesting ideas such as using parking meters, making the traffic around the town square one way, and issuing parking placers to jurors. Mr. Harrill suggested using the City parking lot which Councilman Brown suggested that the City stripe.

Grant Updates: Mr. Harrill announced that the City had a preconstruction meeting and walked the site of the Downtown Project. The Contractor, Hogan Construction Co, will start May 14, 2007. Mr. Harrill also announced that Mr. Campbell has offered to help with the inkind work that has to be provided by the City. Councilman Hardman stated that the City is still waiting on the design of the Lighting.

Other Business: Councilman Hardman suggested starting the process for the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Harrill suggested asking MRPC for a proposal to coordinate the Comprehensive Plan. Councilman Howe if the Clock is paid for and Councilman Hardman told the committee that the clock is paid for. Open meeting was closed at 5:40. Closed session to follow. Committee came out of closed session and the Meeting was adjourned at 6:15p.m.