

**Economic Development Retail Sales Tax Board  
Minutes  
July 7, 2022  
6:30 p.m.**

The Economic Development Retail Sales Tax (EDRST) Board held a virtual meeting on Thursday, July 7, 2022. The meeting commenced at 6:34 pm and adjourned at 7:05 pm.

**Voting Members Present:**

Bobette Patton  
Brendan O'Brien  
Cynthia Martin  
Brandon Bradshaw  
Byron Price  
Kathleen Sorkin

**Voting Members Absent:**

Matthew Bellows  
Matthew Erker

**Council Liaison:**

Mayor Terry Crow was not present for this meeting.

**Staff Present:**

Brooke A. Smith, Deputy City Manager/Dir. of Economic Development  
Gregory Rose, City Manager

**Others attending:**

None

**Approval of Minutes**

Chair Sorkin called for the approval of the minutes from the April 7, 2022 meeting.

Motioned by Cynthia Martin, seconded by Brandon Bradshaw and carried by voice vote to approve the minutes from the April 8, 2022 meeting.

**Public Comments**

Chair Sorkin called for Public Comments. There were none.

**Mayor Comments**

Mayor Crow did not attend the meeting.

City Manager Rose commented on the Costco Development, noting the opening would occur in the October/November timeframe. He also noted that in the next three weeks there would be activity on the south side. He discussed the Crescent Plumbing development, noting that the site plan was on the Council agenda. City Manager Rose noting that a beautification project would be brought to the EDRST board for consideration in the future. Further discussion was had on this topic. City Manager Rose stated that TRU Hotel would be moving forward and that information should be getting presented to the Plan Commission soon. He also noted that Deputy City Manager Brooke Smith is the staff liaison for the Housing and

Third Ward Revitalization Task Force which kicked off the previous month, noting that the next meeting is July 18<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Rose answered questions about the updates given.

## **Old Business**

### *Report on Projects Funded in FY22*

Deputy City Manager Brooke Smith reported on the projects funded in FY22. There were three entities funded: U City in Bloom at \$50,573, U City Farmers Market at \$28,000, and Mannequins in the Loop at \$15,000.

UCIB has been reimbursed \$37,929. Smith noted that she is expecting their final invoice in the next month. Smith also discussed what their project included. She also noted that UCIB intended to ask for a nominal increase for their FY23 funding due to inflation.

U City Farmers Market has been reimbursed for \$28,000. Smith discussed what their project included.

Mannequins in the Loop has been reimbursed for \$15,000. Smith discussed what their project included and noted that they were able to expand their footprint due to popularity.

Smith briefly discussed the Façade Improvement Program, noting that there are three projects still open from FY20 due to supply chain issues. She also mentioned that with the new fiscal year, staff will be preparing to accept new applications.

Ms. Smith answered questions related to her report, including marketing for the Façade Improvement Program.

### *Application Process for “Entitlement Organizations for FY23”*

Chair Sorkin opened the floor for this agenda item.

Chair Sorkin asked questions about this process. Deputy City Manager Smith discussed two options that would allow the entities to receive automatic renewals of their funding as long as they are performing the same project(s) at the same amounts. She discussed how this process would work.

Discussion was had on the topic.

Motioned by Cynthia Martin, seconded by Byron Price to recommend UCIB, Farmers Market, and Mannequins in the Loop be considered entitlement organizations whose applications automatically renews with no more than a 5% increases without having to submit an application.

Discussion was had on the topic.

Motion was approved by voice vote.

## **Board Member Comments**

No Comments.

## **Next Meeting Date – October 6, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. (Tentative)**

Chair Sorkin reminded everyone that the next meeting would be on October 6<sup>th</sup> and asked if the Board wanted to consider getting together in person.

Discussion was had on the topic. The majority agreed to host the next meeting via Zoom.

## **Adjourn**

Chair Sorkin called for a motion to adjourn. Motioned by Brandon Bradshaw, seconded by Cynthia Martin and carried by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.