

November 30, 2022

Seward Economic Development Program - LB 840 Application Review Board

November 30, 2022 - 5:30 p.m.

Seward Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 142 North 7th Street, Seward, Nebraska

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m., with the following members present: Ellen Beck, Patricia Coldiron, Patricia Johnson, Ann Underwood, Karl Miller. Absent: Jeremy Tonniges, Kevin Sagehorn, John Owens. Also in attendance were: Seward County Chamber & Development Partnership Director Jonathan Jank, City Administrator/Program Administrator Greg Butcher (recording minutes).

1. MINUTES – October 26, 2022

This item was incorrectly identified on the agenda, should have been approval of the minutes of October 26, 2022.

Moved by Owens, seconded by Underwood, that the minutes be approved.

Aye: Beck, Coldiron, Johnson, Miller, Underwood.

Nay: None

Absent: Owens, Sagehorn, Tonniges. Motion carried.

2. Financial Reports

City Administrator Greg Butcher presented the most recent financials covering the period from 1/1/22 to 10/31/22. The cash balance as of 10/31/22 was \$296,630.47. The cash balance on 11-29-22 was \$318,732.42. Butcher also reviewed the FY 2022-2023 cash flow projection for the LB 840 fund as prepared by City Finance Director Nick Wolf.

Moved by Miller, seconded by Coldiron, that the financial report be approved.

Aye: Beck, Coldiron, Johnson, Miller, Underwood.

Nay: None

Absent: Owens, Sagehorn, Tonniges. Motion carried.

3. Polar Lights LLC; 115 South 6th Street – Downtown Revitalization Forgivable Loan Request for \$13,934.72

City Administrator Greg Butcher introduced the project and noted that Polar Lights LLC project was recommended by Administration and SENDD for this due to issue getting SAM registered in the federal system for award management.

Moved by Johnson, seconded by Coldiron, that the project be approved.

Aye: Beck, Coldiron, Johnson, Miller, Underwood.

Nay: None

Absent: Owens, Sagehorn, Tonniges. Motion carried

4. Neutral Grounds Coffee Community; 147 S. 6th Street – Downtown Revitalization Forgivable Loan Request for \$2,625.00

City Administrator Greg Butcher introduced the project and noted it's small amount and that SENDD had recommended it due to SAM registration issues as well.

November 30, 2022

Moved Underwood, seconded by Bek, that the project be approved.

Aye: Beck, Coldiron, Johnson, Miller, Underwood.

Nay: None

Absent: Owens, Sagehorn, Tonniges. Motion carried.

5. IH Feary LLC; 132 S. 5th Street – Downtown Revitalization Forgivable Loan Request for \$50,000.00

City Administrator Greg Butcher introduced the project. The project was ultimately denied by DED due to their interpretation that code compliance is only eligible for life safety, health, and ADA. This was based on an email to Kelly Gentrup (SEND) from Steve Charleston (DED) on October 10, 2022. This was not the case with prior projects in the prior Phase of DTR.

The Committee held a lengthy discussion on the project. Coldiron noted that the project may be better suited for a smaller amount or a split loan and grant. Other members shared concern that the project just didn't meet the standards of DED and that is the risk that is taken when you apply for grant funds.

Moved by Beck, seconded by Coldiron, that the project be approved.

Aye: Beck, Coldiron.

Nay: Underwood, Miller, Johnson.

Absent: Owens, Sagehorn, Tonniges. Motion failed.

6. MOTION TO ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m. in a motion by Miller, seconded by Underwood.

Aye: Beck, Coldiron, Johnson, Miller, Underwood.

Nay: None

Absent: Owens, Sagehorn, Tonniges. Motion carried.