

CLOQUET CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Tuesday, June 5, 2018

Present: Bjerkness, Kolodge, Langley, Maki, Rock, Wyman, Mayor Hallback

Absent: None

Staff: Reeves, Barclay, Klassen, Anderson, Hansen, Palmer, Peterson

Other: J. Peterson, Pine Journal

Advance the West End

Holly Hansen, Community Development Director, presented the Advance the West End Loan Program that was approved by the EDA in May. Ms. Hansen provided the Council background on the program and the opportunity to collaborate with the EDA as the program is launched. Ms. Hansen also shared the EDA's action plan and media strategy along with budget needs to revitalize the district. The EDA is requesting comments and input on the overall West End EDA Action Plan/Media Strategy and would also like feedback on the identification of Wentworth Park and the Municipal Entry Lot into West End as part of the West End district.

Ms. Hansen reviewed the problems that continue to hinder the West End development such as poor visibility from Hwy 33, poor traffic patterns through the district, vacant commercial buildings and storefronts and the city's requirements for winter off-street parking and commercial parking requirements. Options for solutions were discussed. EDA goals and strategies for the revitalization were also reviewed.

Also discussed was the possibility of creating a vacant building registry, a job description for Housing Inspector, and the Downtown Cloquet Revitalization Strategy approved by the Council in October of 2017.

An explanation of the West End Loan program was given followed by eligibility.

Other Discussion

Councilor Wyman stated she would like to see more items on the Council Business section of the agenda rather than the Consent Agenda so discussion can take place and the public kept informed, especially with larger dollar amount items.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aaron Reeves
City Administrator