

Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 1
May 21, 2018

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 1 was held on Monday, May 21, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber at City Hall, 401 S. Rogers, Waxahachie, Texas.

Members Present: David Hill, Chairman
Jason Smith, Vice Chairman
Coy Sevier
Brad Yates
Mike Lee
Jane Vineyard
Dusty Autrey.

Member Absent: Brad Yates

Others Present: Michael Scott, City Manager
Anita Brown, Downtown Development Director
Amber Villarreal, Assistant City Secretary

1. Call to Order

Chairman David Hill called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of minutes of the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 1 meeting of February 15, 2018

Action:

Vice Chairman Jason Smith moved to approve the minutes of the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 1 meeting of February 15, 2018. Mr. Dusty Autrey seconded, All Ayes.

3. Consider funding for Downtown Improvements

Anita Brown, Downtown Development Director, reported the kaleidoscope project was installed last month at the corner of Main Street and College Street and is already being utilized by downtown visitors. She also noted the city has received the \$1,500.00 reimbursement grant to pay for half of the kaleidoscope project.

Amy Borders, Director of Communications and Marketing, requested approval of a replacement retaining wall that separates the Doves Nest and Lake Companies parking lots. She explained the new wall would replace the current failing wall and serve as an interactive public art installation. The idea is to allow people to purchase love locks to hang on the fence. She presented a bid proposal for the wall in the amount of \$21,576 with an additional \$870 for the heart locks to be purchased from another vendor. The total request is \$23,000 to allow for contingencies. Ms. Borders explained the hearts tie into the City's "A Place in Your Heart" campaign. Laurie Mosley, Director of Waxahachie CVB, explained the interactive art gives people the opportunity to invest in an area of downtown.

Mr. Coy Sevier asked if other bids were sought. Ms. Borders explained she did not obtain other bids due to the scope of the work.

Mr. Dusty Autrey asked who currently owns the retaining wall and City Manager Michael Scott reported it is jointly owned by the Doves Nest and the Lake Company. Mr. Scott asked the board to consider the request as a beautification effort.

Mr. Autrey inquired about the need for a joint agreement between the city and the property owners to protect the city's investment to the new retaining wall.

Mr. Mike Lee expressed his concern with future expansion on this property noting he does not want the retaining wall to hinder growth.

Action:

Mr. Coy Sevier moved to approve a replacement retaining wall to serve as an interactive public art installation up to the amount of \$23,000. Vice Chairman Jason Smith seconded, All Ayes.

Ms. Borders made a second request for a ten fiberglass hearts to be installed at various locations in the historic overlay district. She explained the hearts would be sponsored by local businesses, individuals or groups, to have the structures painted by an approved list of local artists. The total request for this portion is \$20,000. This allows for \$18,230 for the hearts, and the remainder for installation costs.

Mr. Lee inquired about the weight of the fiberglass hearts and Ms. Borders stated they weigh about 200 pounds and will be bolted into the ground.

Ms. Jane Vineyard noted she has seen similar art in other towns and it is very eye catching.

Action:

Mr. Coy Sevier moved to approve the purchase of ten fiberglass hearts to be installed at various locations in the historic overlay district up to the amount of \$20,000. Ms. Jane Vineyard seconded, All Ayes.

4. Public Comments

Downtown Development Director Anita Brown reported Waxahachie was spotlighted in the Texas Main Street Program Newsletter. She thanked City Manager Michael Scott for creating the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 1 several years ago explaining support from the board has helped revitalize and beautify Downtown Waxahachie.

5. Adjourn

Action:

There being no further business, Mr. Dusty Autrey moved the meeting adjourn at 3:33 p.m. Mr. Mike Lee seconded, All Ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber Villarreal
Assistant City Secretary