

**THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO**  
**Proceedings of the Huron City Council**  
**Work Session Meeting Tuesday, July 10, 2018 at 5:00p.m.**

A joint work session meeting of the City Council and Economic Development Committee of the City of Huron, Ohio was called to order by Mayor Brad Hartung on Tuesday, July 10, 2018 at 5:00p.m. in the Council Room of Huron City Hall, 417 Main Street, Huron, Ohio.

The following members of Council and the Economic Development Committee were present: Council-Rick Schaffter, Trey Hardy, Christine Crawford, Brad Hartung, Joe Dike, and Glen Ginesi. Sam Artino joined the meeting in progress at 6:02pm. EDC- Maureen Engeler, Jodi Mast, Dennis Velliquette, Tim Parkison, Doug Studer. Members of EDC absent: Andy Kurtz. Also in attendance: Dennis Burnside of Juniper CRE, and Abbey Beamis of ECEDC.

City administration/staff present: City Manager Andy White, Law Director Laura Alkire, Assistant to the City Manager Mike Spafford, and Management Services Coordinator ~ Clerk of Council Christine Gibboney.

**New Business**

**Role of the Economic Development Committee(EDC)**

Mayor Hartung referenced the discussion at the last EDC meeting relative to confusion expressed over the role of members on the EDC, the specific question raised: is EDC to initiate items/topics or does Council initiate and refer matters to the EDC. The Mayor provided a recap of the history of the EDC to date. Mayor Hartung and Mr. Ginesi explained that they envisioned the EDC would operate in a similar manner to the Finance Committee; with the Mayor noting that Council sends issues to the Finance Committee, the Finance Committee reviews and makes recommendation to Council. It was noted that since the EDC was reorganized in 2017, the committee has only reviewed projects or ideas, no recommendations have been made. A lengthy discussion then ensued, items of note/discussion:

- EDC members expressed their interest in becoming more involved, noting their willingness to research and do work on their own to assist administration and Council. Expressed the need for more structure of the committee and a defined process.
- Discussion on defining economic development issues/topic resulted in many varying opinions: Utility rates, tax abatements/incentives, CRA areas, tourism/marketing, land acquisition/Corporate Park.
- Vision 2020 Master Plan referenced as a foundation/starting point. It was noted that some items in the Plan are complete or are already in progress. Administration could break these down and prioritize future projects. Ongoing economic development within the city reviewed and the need to capture the economic impact noted.
- Examples of strategic plans from various entities were mentioned. It was noted Mr. Burnside had provided Mr. Ginesi examples of comprehensive Economic Development Policies. He referenced the weekly development meetings Juniper has with administration and the willingness to assist the EDC with outlining a plan. Ms. Beamis discussed economic development from ECEDC's perspective - wealth generation for the city - attracting business with incentives to pursue development and work force support. EDC members expressed interest in a document that identifies all economic development projects that can be updated with status in order for them to have current up to date information on all economic development projects.
- Council and EDC members discussed the process for the initiation of issues/projects.
- Population and demographics reviewed and discussed.
- Importance of departments noted and their role/relation to economic development.
- Reference was made to Council goals and the need to stay on course with the goals set, as it was explained that many projects/items are routinely added throughout the year.

**In conclusion:**

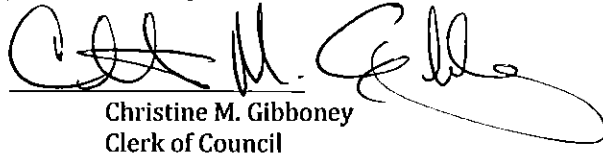
- The EDC will use the Vision 2020 Master Plan as a starting point to create a policy which will be brought back to Council to review, in segments, as completed. City Council can then weed out items

that do not follow the direction of Council. Mr. Burnside and Ms. Beamis offered their help to the EDC from a strategic planning standpoint in breaking down/identifying items.

- Mr. Burnside noted that Juniper is in the process of updating the data information contained in their study. He also noted the importance of an economic impact study of what Mucci and OPC will do for the city and the importance of land acquisition for another Corporate Park. Data update could be completed and provided in a couple weeks.

**Other Matters**

The joint work session meeting of July 10, 2018 adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

  
Christine M. Gibboney  
Clerk of Council