

March 25, 2024
6:00pm
Lowell City Hall

Attendees: Heather Seay, Jessica Holbrook, Michelle Sebastian, Bill Knox, Candy Funderburk, Jarel Mackey, and Joe Gates.

Heather called the meeting to order and determination of quorum occurred at 6:00pm.

A motion was made by Bill to approve the minutes from the Feb. 26th, meeting and it was seconded by Jessica. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Façade Grant Application Review and Recommendation to City Council

New Business

A. Façade Grant Application Review and Recommendation to City Council

The application process closed out with four applications that were complete and within the scope of work allowed. The LCC reviewed the "Priorities" of the Façade Grant Application and then each application. The following recommendations will be made to City Council at their next meeting:

- 1) Michelle made a motion that City Council award MEM Investments \$2500.00 for the matching façade grant. This improvement meets the priorities listed in the façade grant, #1- 4 guidelines. Specifically, the updating of the paint will be compatible with the neighboring properties and updated colors. Motion was seconded by Bill. Motion was unanimously approved.
- 2) Bill made a motion that City Council award Vera Floyd Beauty Salon \$1170.00 for the matching façade grant. This improvement meets the priorities listed in the façade grant, #1- 4 guidelines. Specifically, a new front door will be purchased and installed. Motion was seconded by Candy. Motion was unanimously approved.
- 3) Candy made a motion that City Council award Back of the Moon \$2406.03 for the matching façade grant. This improvement meets the priorities listed in the façade grant, #1- 4 guidelines. Specifically, improving and painting the trim/moldings to match the connecting building. Motion was seconded by Bill. Motion was unanimously approved.
- 4) Bill made a motion that City Council award York Properties \$585.00 for the matching façade grant. This improvement meets the priorities listed in the façade grant, #1- 4 guidelines. Specifically, the exterior of the buildings and property will be cleaned. Motion was seconded by Jessica. Motion was unanimously approved.

Grant totals would be \$6661.03 total leaving a balance \$5838.97.

Staff Updates

B. Planning Director Updates

- Joe shared that his last day as Planning Director will be April 5th. We thanked him for his service and wished him the best. Tyler Cobb will be filling in until a new Planning Director is hired.
- The Aberdeen extension is complete. Once utility work is completed, City Council will vote on adopting the road for public use.
- The Lennar Homes development is setting up for their Development Agreement with the City. This agreement defines construction times with the approvals that City Council had agreed to. The development currently allows for 407 new houses.

C. Parks and Recreation

- Andrea Nixon has accepted the position of Parks and Recreations Director, and April 8th will be her official start date.
- Eggs in the Park was a successful event with three different age groups participating.
- Golden Egg contest is currently going on.

Member Comments

- D. Michelle inquired about having signs made up for the spring litter clean up to invite/encourage residents to join in for the volunteer opportunity.
- E. Candy shared her thoughts about having a marquee downtown to help share important community dates, events, happenings, etc.
- F. Heather asked about a proposed monthly newsletter that will be sent with the water bill. Joe shared that that is still in the plans and will be coming soon.
- G. Candy asked about updating the Welcome signs, replacing the wooden signs with a brick option so that they looked nicer.
- H. Candy asked about updating the flowers in the pots that are downtown. There was additional discussion about starting an "Adopt a Pot" program where a local business may want to care for a pot that is near their establishment.
- I. Michelle asked about Welcome Packets for new residents to Lowell. Currently, there is information shared with new residents, but the LCC may look into additional items/information to share with the packets.

J. Candy shared that Thomas (Maintenance) told her that the electrical wires on McAdenville Road impede with proposed Christmas Light Decorations. And the cost to run new electric is cost prohibited.

K. Michelle asked if Lowell was designated as a "Tree City USA"? And it is not.

Motion to adjourn was made by Michelle and seconded by Bill. Motion approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned.