

**Minutes**  
Columbus Community and Industrial Development Corporation  
Board of Directors Meeting

The Columbus Community & Industrial Development Corporation met in Regular session on Tuesday, **December 6, 2011** at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 605 Spring Street, Columbus, Texas. The following CCIDC Members were present:

President	-	Lori An Gobert (arrived at 7:30 p.m.)
President Elect	-	Steve Woodall (absent)
Treasurer	-	Matt Sprague
Secretary	-	Elizabeth Flint
Board Member	-	John Mau (absent)
Board Member	-	Curtiss Schonenberg
Board Member	-	James Weishuhn
City Manager	-	Donald Warschak
City Secretary	-	Linda Lakich

**1. Call to Order.**

Board Member, James Weishuhn, called the CCIDC meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

**2. Pledge and Invocation.**

The Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation were done at the Annual Meeting preceding this one.

**3. Consent Agenda**

- a. Approval of regular meeting minutes October 17, 2011.
- b. Approval of annual meeting minutes November 21, 2011.
- c. Approval of regular meeting minutes November 21, 2011.
- d. Approval of invoices.
- e. Approval of October 2011 financial statements.

In the regular meeting minutes from October 17, 2011 Howell Tire was corrected to Howell Canoe Livery. The annual and regular minutes from November 21, 2011 were corrected to show that John Mau was absent and James Weishuhn was present. There were no other corrections.

Matt Sprague made a motion to approve the consent agenda as corrected. Curtiss Schonenberg seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Sprague, Flint, Schonenberg, and Weishuhn

The motion passed.

**4. Citizen comments.**

There were no citizen comments.

**5. City Manager's Report: Sales Tax, Update on 4B Grant Applications.**

City Manager, Donald Warschak, reported that November sales tax received was \$37,112.80 compared to \$33,749.46 last year. He also said that the lights at the entrance to the Industrial Park had been fixed, and that the ones on the pedestal sign at Great Southern Way had not been fixed yet. He said that if there was no objection, he planned to have those lights fixed at a cost of approximately \$300. He would like to wait

until spring to replant the beds, fix the irrigation, and wash the stones at the entrance. He also informed the Board that the city had awarded the contract for painting the water tower at the Industrial Park which includes repairing the lighting and painting the Park Logo and contact phone number to be paid for by CCIDC.

**6. Discussion and Action to approve Investment Report for the quarter ending September 30, 2011.**

After a discussion of the information presented in the report, Curtiss Schonenberg made a motion to approve the Investment Report for the quarter ending September 30, 2011. Matt Sprague seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Sprague, Flint, Schonenberg, and Weishuhn

The motion passed.

**7. Public Hearing regarding the 2011-2012 Economic Development Grants.**

James Weishuhn closed the regular meeting and opened the Public Hearing at 6:56 p.m.

No one wished to speak.

Mr. Weishuhn closed the Public Hearing and reopened the regular meeting at 6:57 p.m.

**8. Discussion and Action to award the 2011-2012 Economic Development Grants.**

Mr. Weishuhn read a summary of the Economic Grants that were applied for and asked Mr. Schonenberg to add the details for each grant. Mr. Schonenberg said the first grant request was from the Columbus Housing Committee of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce for the Fall Trash Off which was held October 22<sup>nd</sup>. They asked for \$3,000 to cover the expenses of promotion and disposal. Their total expenses for the event are approximately \$4,200. City Attorney, Pat Gillespie said that the request does fall within the law for 4B grants. Mr. Schonenberg said that even though the City is now including heavy garbage pickup, the trash offs are still relevant because clean up is still needed and litter is still a problem. He said that he would recommend approving both the requests for the Fall Trash Off and for the Spring Trash Off for \$2,500 as requested by the Columbus Garden Club. Donald Warschak said that the focus may change to beautification of the City instead of heavy trash pick up. Elizabeth Flint said that she is in favor of continuing to fund both of the Trash Off Events. Curtiss Schonenberg said that he would like to fund both projects.

The second grant request was from the Chamber of Commerce Columbus Housing Committee for its Gateways to Columbus Project. They would like funds to mark the entrances to the City as recommended by the Kerry R. Gilbert Study and requested \$65,000. Mr. Weishuhn pointed out that this is more than CCIDC has budgeted for the year for Economic Development Grants and that he did not think that they could fund that much at this time. Mr. Schonenberg agreed and suggested that the Housing Committee work on the project more, get more definitive numbers, and look at getting some outside funding. They would also need to consult with TxDOT. Ms. Flint said that since this would be promotion of Columbus, the Act would limit the grant to 10% of income per year. She also said that she was pleased that they were following up on the Kerry R. Gilbert Study, and that perhaps they could break the project up into segments. Pat Gillespie said that the request does fall within the law for 4B grants but that she thought it would require two readings and a resolution before passage.

The next grant request discussed was from the Columbus Garden Club for \$2,200 for the Legion Drive Pocket Park. Mr. Schonenberg said that the Garden Club and the City's Parks Department have done a lot of work at this Park including putting in a sidewalk and picnic tables. The Garden Club is requesting these funds to replace the remaining two old picnic tables at the site. Pat Gillespie said that the request does fall within the law for 4B grants.

Discussed next was the request by Colorado Valley Transit for \$5,000 for their Job Access Reverse Commute Project. Pat Gillespie said that she could not make this request fit in with the law for 4B grants. It was also pointed out that this would promote people going into other cities rather than staying in Columbus.

The last grant request discussed was by the Columbus Youth Center for their Electronic Literacy Program. Pat Gillespie said that this one also did not fall within the law for 4B grants.

Mr. Schonenberg made a motion to reject the grant applications from Colorado Valley Transit and Columbus Youth Center, to request more information from the Columbus Housing Committee, and to award 2011-2012 Economic Development grants as follows:

Columbus Housing Committee-Fall Trash Off	\$3,000
Columbus Garden Club-Spring Trash Off	\$2,500
Columbus Garden Club-Legion Dr. Park	\$2,200

Ms. Flint seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Sprague, Flint, Schonenberg, and Weishuhn

The motion passed.

Mr. Weishuhn requested that a letter be sent to the Columbus Housing Committee telling them that the grant was not going to be funded at this time citing budget constraints and asking for more development of the project and a master plan. They will also need to consult with the Texas Department of Transportation.

#### **9. Discussion and Action to award bid for brush clearing at the Industrial Park.**

City Manager, Donald Warschak, explained that this project for clearing had been rebid to scale back on the project. This bid is to clean underbrush within 50 feet of the property lines north and south of Great Southern along with the area on the west side of the park. Curtiss Schonenberg told the Board that he is related Brushline Dozer who is one of the bidders and has filed papers stating so. He would abstain from voting, but then there would not be a quorum. He asked the City Attorney if there would be a problem with him voting on this item, since he felt that they needed to get the clearing done. City Attorney, Pat Gillespie, said that he could vote as long as he had disclosed the conflict and no one on the Board objected. Elizabeth Flint said that she was uncomfortable with it and would like to postpone. Matt Sprague said that since the bid by Brushline Dozer was so much less for the same work that he would have no problem with allowing Mr. Schonenberg to vote. Elizabeth Flint said that she did not want to do the project at that time. Mr. Schonenberg said that he had taken people to look at the park and that was unable to see important aspects of the park like the railroad access. President Lori An Gobert arrived at this time. Curtiss Schonenberg said that when the property is shown that it does not have a clear definition of boundaries and that the clearing as proposed would do that.

Matt Sprague made a motion to award the bid for brush clearing at the Industrial Park to Brushline Dozer Works for \$8,120.00. Lori An Gobert seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Sprague, Schonenberg, Gobert, and Weishuhn

Nos: Flint

The motion passed.

**10. Discussion and Action regarding Kerry R. Gilbert study.**

James Weishuhn reported that Steve Woodall had reviewed the study and the Lori An Gobert went to Council and asked them to take action on the study. She reported that a Historical Committee had met and that the Housing Committee is acting on the Gateways. James Weishuhn said that he thought that outside professional help would be needed to make things happen. Donald Warschak said that the Historical Committee will be having an open meeting on January 19<sup>th</sup>.

No action was taken.

**11. Discussion and Action regarding KW International.**

Lori An Gobert said that she had talked with Corby at KW International about two weeks before and that he told her that the scope of the project had been expanded. He told her that they were now looking at summer for construction to begin, and that it would take about fourteen months to complete it. He told her that they were still in the design phase of the project. When asked if she was keeping a written record of her conversations with KW International, Lori An said that she was not because as long as they met the minimum requirements of the agreement she didn't think that she needed to do so. She will report on future conversations to the Board.

No action was necessary.

**12. Discussion and Action to reschedule the January 2012 meeting.**

Curtiss Schonenberg made a motion to table the decision to reschedule the January 2012 meeting until the December 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. Elizabeth Flint seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Gobert, Sprague, Flint, Schonenberg, and Weishuhn

The motion passed.

**13. Discussion of items to be placed on future agendas.**

Items to be placed on future agendas included:

Curtiss Schonenberg – None.

James Weishuhn – None.

Matt Sprague – None.

Elizabeth Flint – None.

Lori An Gobert – would like to see the upkeep and landscaping for the entrance put on the agenda in early spring. She also asked to have items discussing the possibility of putting together a brochure and updating the website placed on the agenda.

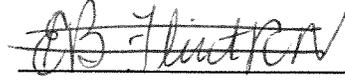
14. Adjourn.

James Weishuhn adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

President:

  
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Attest  
Secretary:

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