



MINUTES

**Committee on Development and Planning
Monday, November 20, 2017 @ 4:00 p.m.
Council Conference Room, City Hall 10th Floor**

CALL TO ORDER

Called to order at 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Council Member Brown Clarke, Chair
Council Member Yorko, Vice-Chair
Council Member Houghton, Member- excused
Council Member Hussain, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Staff
Greg Venker, Assistant City Attorney
Bob Johnson, Planning & Neighborhood Development Director
Eric Schertzing, Ingham County Treasurer
David Wiener, Southside Community Coalition
Kathy Miles
Elaine Womboldt

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment at this time.

MINUTES

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER YORKO TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 6, 2017. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

DISCUSSION/ACTION

RESOLUTION – Objecting to Transfer of Unsold Tax Reverted Properties for the Ingham County Treasurer to the City of Lansing

Mr. Johnson recapped to the Committee that this was an annual review and option to reject parcels from the County. In this resolution there were 107 parcels and the Administration is recommending rejection of all 107 parcels. Mr. Johnson did confirm however that there were two (2) parcels they were considering, one on Grand River near Seymour and one on Holmes, the former Hope Academy. After review of the parcels, standing and options the Administration decided not to pursue pulling those two parcels from the list so as to obtain them.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER YORKO TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR OBJECTING TO TRANSFER OF UNSOLD TAX REVERTED PROPERTIES FOR THE INGHAM COUNTY TREASURER TO THE CITY OF LANSING. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – ACT-8-2017; Acquisition of Simken Properties

Dave Wiener, Southside Community Coalition was introduced by Mr. Johnson, and then Mr. Johnson outlined the area and the history on the site (reference map in packet). In 2007 there was a fire which damaged the building. In 2008 the owner informed the City he was going to disconnect the utilities, and being proactive the City contacted the utility companies to confirm, and then informed the tenants of the action. If there were no active utilities it would be a violation and uninhabitable, therefore the tenants would have to leave. In 2010 three buildings on the three parcels were demolished. Bankview Financial became the lender and mortgage holder and after time, let the three parcels go for tax foreclosure. The Southside Community Coalition abuts the properties and currently all the properties are vacant. The Southside Community Coalition has plans to install a soccer field, Beacon Field #2; trails, and utilize the other ecological features. The City and the Coalition have been working with the Ingham County Land bank where they will both agree to sell the three parcels to the City for \$1 per parcel. They will then go into an agreement with the City for the land to be used for a recreational property. Mr. Johnson pointed out that this is not parks property, however if the coalition chooses not to use for recreational property, it will revert back to the County Land bank. Council Member Brown Clarke asked Mr. Johnson if the area would be ever considered recreational since the City is purchasing from the Land bank for \$1 per parcel. Mr. Johnson clarified it would be deemed as City owned property and the City will then have an agreement with Southside Coalition to manage it. All maintenance and overseeing is the Southside Coalition. She then inquired as into when or why the Coalition cannot buy from the City. Mr. Johnson stated they have not considered it. Council Member Hussain asked what the advantage would be to having a partnership with the City and the non-profit organization of Southside Coalition. Mr. Johnson noted that one advantage would be adding a park to the City inventory. Mr. Wiener provided an answer to an earlier question on their ownership into the park, admitting that they do not feel they are ready to take ownership at this point. Currently they are partnering with the Capital Area Soccer League, Health Department, LEAP and a new organization of merchants in the southwest area of Lansing. Acquiring this property is the first step in developing the area, and someday they could be ready to purchase and own the property. Mr. Johnson added that the City is currently the conduit in terms of working towards their goal of ownership.

Council Member Yorko provided information on the role of the Ingham County Health Department in the network of Best Health Partners, and their research into the neighborhoods in the City where there were poor health outcomes and the best area to place this park.

Mr. Venker recommended a modification to resolution, in the 6th WHEREAS, eliminating the bullet points, and changing it to stated “with reverter clauses, which shall be recited in the deed of transfer”. Mr. Johnson pointed out to the Committee that the Zoning Ordinance does not allow for medical marijuana dispensaries or a casino and so they wanted it called out.

Ms. Womboldt spoke in support of the project.

Ms. Mills asked about repairs at the former Hope Academy building. Council Member Brown Clarke stated that once that property goes back to the Land bank, who ever purchases it will have the ability to make the repairs.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR ACT-8-2017; ACQUISITION OF SIMKEN PROPERTIES. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Other

No other comments.

Adjourn

Adjourn at 4:39 p.m.

Submitted by, Sherrie Boak,

Recording Secretary,

Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on February 5, 2018