**Van Alstyne Community Development Corporation**

**Minutes– Regular Board Meeting**

**Van Alstyne City Hall, 152 N. Main Dr.**

**Thursday, January 21, 2021 6:00 P.M.**

**A QUORUM OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS MAY OR MAY NOT BE PRESENT. NO ACTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL WILL BE TAKEN AT THIS MEETING. VISITORS WISHING TO SPEAK MUST BE RECOGNIZED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD AND LIMIT COMMENTS TO 2 MINUTES.**

1. **Call to order - Recognition of guest(s)**

**The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. Present were board members David Sileven, Robert Jaska, Alesha Crowell, Sherry Jeffcoat and Brad Clough. Also present was Executive Director Rodney Williams. Absent was Mark Moss.**

**Guests present were Laura Cooper and Larry Cooper**

**Board President David Sileven presented Laura Cooper with a plaque honoring her dedication as a volunteer with the Van Alstyne Economic Development Corporation and she was met with a round of applause.**

**2. Invocation**

 **Robert Jaska gave the invocation.**

**3.** **Discuss/Action: Approval of minutes from previous meetings: November 19, 2020 regularly scheduled meeting.**

 **Brad Clough made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Robert Jaska seconded the motion and it passed unanimously, 5-0.**

**4. Discuss/Action: Façade Grant request for Laurie Hodgins/The Jolly Good Shop**

 **Laurie Hudgins presented a grant request for her new business, The Jolly Good Shop, 120 S. Main Dr. Hudgins presented her business plan, storefront plans and inventory plans. Hudgins requested $1,077.09 for a new awning for the building façade.**

**5. Discuss/Action: Estimate for work to complete Downtown Lighting Project**

 **Rodney Williams discussed with the Board the process of the downtown light improvements as undertaken by The Bulb Changer, Inc. Williams had funded the invoice of $2,500 as authorized in the Board’s November meeting in order to have the company straighten light strands and repair/replace light bulb outages along downtown buildings. The company was not able to complete the project and submitted an invoice to finish the project for $1,623.75. Robert Jaska made a motion to approve the funding of $1,623.75 to finish the Downtown Light Project. Sherry Jeffcoat seconded the motion and it passed, 5-0.**

**6. Discuss/Action: Future billboard messaging**

 **Rodney Williams discussed new future messaging on the leased billboard to the north of Van Alstyne. Brad Clough suggested promoting Cars & Coffee or shopping downtown. Discussion was extended to the “Shop Downtown” theme. Williams was instructed to take that theme to Lamar and have proofs done for new billboard signage.**

**7. Discuss/Action: Review of new member application**

 **Rodney Williams presented the new member application to fill the empty seat as vacated by former board member Wayne Womack. There was discussion centered on the fact that it was posted in the month of December, and due to Covid-related illness the office was closed for much of the month. Sherry Jeffcoat inquired about re-posting the opening for another month. Jeffcoat made a motion to ask the City to extend the application period and repost the board opening. Alesha Crowell seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.**

**8. Discuss/Action: Treasurer’s Report**

 **The Treasurer’s Report was tabled until February due to the absence of the board treasurer.**

**9. Discuss/Action: Director’s report**

 **Rodney Williams presented the Director’s Report detailing his activities over the past month.**

**10. Recess into closed session pursuant to Chapter 551, Texas Government Code for deliberation regarding:**

1. **Section 551.087. Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations. This chapter does not require a governmental body to conduct an open meeting: (1) to discuss or deliberate regarding commercial or financial information that the governmental body has received from a business prospect that the governmental body seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the territory of the governmental body and with which the governmental body is conducting economic development negotiations; or (2) to deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect described by Subdivision (1).**
2. **Section 551.074 – to deliberate or discuss the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment of duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee;**
3. **Reconvene into open session**

**11. Discuss/Action: Take any action as a result of closed session**

**Brad Clough made a motion to approve the grant request by Laurie Hudgins, The Jolly Good Shop, in the amount of $1,077.09 as presented in accordance with section 501.103 of the Texas Local Govt. Code relating to site improvements, contingent upon getting the property owner form as signed by Gary McDonald officially notarized. Alesha Crowell seconded the motion and it passed, 5-0.**

**12. Closing comments**

 **There were no closing comments.**

**13. Adjourn**

 **The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted by Rodney Williams**