



MINUTES

Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) Board

March 4, 2021 | 10 AM | City Hall Basement Conference Room

In Attendance

Members Present

Mr. Robert (Stormy) Higgins ~ Vice Chair Mr. Charles Black
Mr. Sam Vinson Mr. Ben Grant

City Staff Present

Mr. Michael Rice, Assistant City Manager
Mr. Michael Rains, Director of Finance
Mr. Mike Warrix, Director/Planning and Development Services
Ms. Kelley Messer, First Assistant City Attorney
Ms. Melissa Farr, Executive Assistant

Others Present

Ms. Lynn Barnett Mr. Doug Williamson Mr. Charles Wolfe

Call to Order

Mr. Higgins called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. and Ms. Farr recorded the minutes. A quorum of members was present, and the meeting proceeded.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting, September 25, 2019, were reviewed by Board members. Mr. Vinson made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Black seconded the motion. The vote to **approve** minutes was carried by three (3) in favor with none (0) in opposition.

AYES: Black, Vinson, Higgins

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Grant

Agenda Items

Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing, and Take Action on a Funding Request from the Abilene Cultural Affairs Council.

Ms. Lynn Barnett, Executive Director for the Abilene Cultural Affairs Council, was present to explain the request for potential funding of the sculpture titled "In Cloud Light IV" by artist, Anthony Howe.

Ms. Barnett explained that a grant in the amount of \$94,566 has been received from the Texas Commission on the Arts for the project entitled "Walk this Way." This grant is intended to fund not only a portion of this sculpture, but also the underpass lighting, pedestrian directional signage, and security cameras.

The evening planned for October 22, 2021, "Walk This Way," will celebrate the installation of the new kinetic sculpture. Ms. Barnett clarified that the City will own the sculpture. Mr. and Mrs. Dick Spalding have issued a challenge grant in the amount of \$75,000 to assist with the purchase of the \$200,000 sculpture. The ACAC is asking the City to consider matching their challenge with TIRZ funding.

Mr. Black moved to approve this request. Mr. Vinson seconded the motion. The motion to **approve** this request prevailed by the following vote:

AYES: Black, Vinson, Grant, Higgins

NAYS: None

Receive a Report and Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing on the Statement of Net Position for TIRZ #2

Mr. Mike Rains presented the financial reports for the last three months. As of January 31, 2021, the Fiscal YTD change in fund balance is \$293, 094. \$407,611 remains in the budget for this year (FY21 Budget.)

Mr. Grant moved to approve this report. Mr. Vinson seconded the motion. The motion to **approve** this report prevailed by the following vote:

AYES: Black, Vinson, Grant, Higgins

NAYS: None

Receive a Report and Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing on a Status Report for the Façade Improvement Grant Program and the Demolition Assistance Grant Program

Mr. Mike Warrix presented the current status of the City of Abilene Façade Improvement Grant Program. There have been 15 grants awarded for a total of \$138, 167. The total of remaining funds is \$11,833.

Mr. Warrix also presented the status of the Demolition Assistance Grant Program. There have been four grants awarded for a total of \$46, 530. The total of funds remaining is \$103, 470.

Mr. Vinson moved to approve this report. Mr. Grant seconded the motion. The motion to **approve** this report prevailed by the following vote:

AYES: Black, Vinson, Grant, Higgins

NAYS: None

Adjournment

Mr. Black moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Vinson seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

APPROVED



Robert (Stormy) Higgins - Vice Chair

