

Harrington Public Development Authority
Minutes
January 27, 2015

The Public Development Authority meeting was called to order at 7:00pm on January 27, 2015 by President Josh Steward. Those present were: Jay Kane, Allen Barth, Paul Charlton, Bunny Haugan and Josh Steward. Visitors were: Margie Hall from the EDC and Jay Gossett.

The motion by Allen Barth and second by Paul Charlton approved the minutes as presented.

Margie Hall presented a concept she had heard about called the Vacant Building Committee. Abandoned/vacant buildings can become a safety hazard or create a danger to adjoining buildings. This committee would work with the cities to set some policies and ultimately assess these property owners a quarterly fee for required maintenance to insure that their building is being maintained. She shared this idea in an effort to make owners responsible for their property and buildings. A copy of the city nuisance ordinance will be printed for the members to review.

Allen Barth reported he had checked with some banks about loaning money to the PDA. He found that because we have no history of money management the banks were not interested.

The possibility of securing the abandoned Landmark Apartments was discussed. Commissioner Stedman will be contacted for an update as he was in the process of contacting Niels Peterson who was part of the last housing coalition involved in this building. The members felt checking the status of the building structure and plumbing was important. Jay Kane offered to help inspect the building if a key could be located. He suggested contacting Jeff Johnson who is a local building to do a walk through inspection.

Other buildings available for sale or at lease appear to be vacant were once again discussed. The Carrot Patch has been rented for an e-bay business by Ken Kennedy.

President Josh informed the group that the grant that was available through the Farm Credit Service would need some support and perhaps the Lions Club could be contacted and their members would write a letter of support for the PDA if the PDA decided to apply for the grant.

The City council approved the appointment of Paul Charlton to the unexpired term of Carolyn Mattozzi.

In checking with the Mayor regarding the anonymous cash donation the PDA received. He will check with the City Attorney on the legality of accepting the money and property accounting for it.

The date of the meeting was changed to the third Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be February 17th at 7:00pm at City Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

Bunny Haugan, Secretary