

Economic Development Minutes

Honorable Council
City of Newark, Ohio
July 1, 2014

The Economic Development Committee met in Council Chambers on Monday June 30, 2014 following the Service Committee meeting. These members were present:

Jeff Rath, Chair	Dee Hall
Jeremy Blake	Curtis Johnson
Bill Cost Jr	

We wish to report:

1. **Ordinance 14-19** approving the historic designation of 112 West Main Street as a local historic property and declaring an emergency was considered.

Director Mauter- passed out guidelines that are used by the CLG Committee to Committee members. What I thought that we would do since this is the first time that Council or Committee has been through this process of having certified local governments bring forth a request for a historical designation I thought that I would take you through the process that we use if I may. First of all, this ordinance is asking Council to approve the historical designation for 112 West Main Street. In November of last year this Council passed Ordinance 13-36 A which created Chapter 1450 of the Codified Ordinance of the City. One of the things that the ordinance did was require a 5 member committee to be put together that would review applications that were submitted for this designation. It is to help us get properties that are outside of the Historical District of Newark. This property 112 West Main Street is just outside of the Historical District. The CLG Committee met on June 6th at a public meeting here in Council Chambers. We interviewed the applicant Steve Layman regarding his application that was accepted. We used the criterion that is outlined on the handout that I gave you to judge the merit of the application. We voted unanimously to approve the application and send it to City Council for their approval. City Council's approval is vital to the financial viability of this Economic Development project Mr. Layman is considering undertaking. I can't stress that enough. This historical designation at the local level is then going to allow this project to apply for both State and Federal historic preservation tax credits. Those tax credits are what are going to make this economically feasible for him to undertake this project. The timing for the application to be made to the State and Federal agencies will require this legislation to be declared an emergency for timing purposes. On behalf of the Committee for Design and Preservation I strongly recommend to Council and Committee that we approve this designation and move Ordinance 14-19 on to full Council for a vote.

Mr. Rath- could you tell us who is on the committee; I know you chair it but who are the other 4?

Director Mauter- I am the Chair, Bruce Bain is the Vice Chair, Zane Wachtel is a member, Phil Claggett is a member and Doug Mill. Fred Ernest is our CIC representative but he is not a voting member of the board.

Mr. Blake- since this is our first time going through this process my questions are very broad I am just seeking information. What are the Historical District boundaries, you said this was just outside of it?

Director Mauter- I have a map in my office Jeremy that I could share with you but it is basically South Park Place and extends over to Church Street towards 4th Street the west side is basically from 3rd down to 4th and partially 5th and also on the south side of the square for about a block.

Mr. Blake- so the City had to apply to the State to create that district?

Director Mauter- that was before my time, I believe that has been in existence for quite some time.

Mr. Blake- so if we didn't have this local identification process then Mr. Layman or others would have to work with the State?

Director Mauter- that is exactly correct. This takes the process that could be a two year process down to a couple of month's process.

Mr. Rath- asked Director Mauter to email them a copy of the map because I anticipate talking about this in the future and it might be helpful to have.

Mrs. Floyd- I don't really have a question, I am very much in favor of this project. From a historic stand point that was Newark High School and this has been pointed out in the newspaper and then was used as an Intermediate School then it has been used as the Elementary. One thing that has not been mentioned is that is where the Newark Campus of The Ohio State University started. It started in 1957, classes started after school was out. I went there for my first two years at Ohio State. You went to class starting at like 3:30, 4:00 and classes went until 10:00 at night. That went on until 1965 in the fall where they moved to the High School which is now gone.

Motion by Mr. Johnson to send to full Council, second by Mr. Cost

Mr. Blake- suggested that since Mr. Layman was in the audience he speak to the future use of the building.

Steve Layman- 9 N 3rd St, the plan right now is to convert the building into 27 apartment units that would or the most part take advantage of the existing classrooms. Some of the larger rooms may be divided and the old boiler room will become several apartments. There are 18 classrooms so you can see we are stretching but there should be 27 apartments and there will be an elevator. The architect has a great design and we are looking forward to doing it. I would just say that City has done great in creating the CLG and this process. It has taken time but I think the process has been done right and we are pleased with the progress and we looking forward to making our application.

Mr. Rath- I wish you luck, this is a good plan and I hope that it works out well for you and it will then ultimately work out well for the City as well.

Motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Jeff Rath, Chair