

Council Chambers, City Hall, June 18, 2009, 5:30 P.M.

The West Union City Council held a special meeting on June 16, 2009, at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Merlin Dunt presiding.

Attendance	Roll call: Present – Councilmembers Halva, Guenther, Schott and Rue Dyke present via teleconference
Approval of Agenda	Motion was made by Guenther, seconded by Schott, to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call. All voted aye. Carried.
Downtown Improvement Project	Mayor Merlin Dunt advised the Council and those in attendance the reason for the special council meeting was to review the decision to proceed on the CAT grant. Due to the deadline of July 15 <sup>th</sup> and the allocation of funds that we could lose, the best opportunity for West Union to apply for funding is the July deadline, not October. After much discussion, Jeff Geertz of IDED was asked to clarify the process of the grant and how the funding works. In securing the CAT grant, which is one of the largest grants available, it allows us to show funding is available which then allows us to go after even more grant funding. To date, IDED has put \$291,000 into our project for us through engineering and the grant writer. Two important reasons to meet the July deadline: 1) Once the pool of funds is gone, it is gone; and what will be put into it the next year is unknown. 2) Council needs to know what funding is available to know how to proceed on the scope of the project when it is time to bid out the job. With waiting until October, the bidding time is shortened and costs and interests rates will be on the rise.  Some of the comments from the public were that it would be fiscally irresponsible not to go after all the grant money we could to take some of the financial responsibility off the citizens of West Union. We've neglected our main street area too long, and have beautiful aspects of our town such as the library, the fine arts center, the rec center, and the pool; but then our downtown is run down. Sometimes when potential businesses are looking at our town to locate here, we don't even see them or know they are here; they are looking at how we take care of our town and once we clean up our town, we could get the industries. We are all partners in this, and need our town to get a new face, a new life, and to remain solid.
Res. #2009-25	Motion was made by Guenther, seconded by Halva, to adopt Resolution #2009-25, a resolution supporting the Community Attraction and Tourism Grant Application in the amount of up to \$2,000,000. Roll call. All voted Aye. Carried.
Approval of Planscape Partners to Proceed with the CAT Grant Application	Motion was made by Schott, seconded by Halva, for approval for Planscape Partners to proceed with the CAT grant application at a cost estimate of \$8,500 to \$10,000. This amount will be reimbursed to us by IDED towards the grant writer funding awarded to us. Roll Call. All voted Aye. Carried.
Next Council Meeting	The next regular meeting will be held July 6, 2009, at 5:30 P.M. at city hall.
Adjourn	With no further business to bring before the Council, a motion was made by Guenther, seconded by Rue, to adjourn. Roll call. All voted aye. Carried.  Meeting adjourned 6:35 P.M.

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MERLIN DUNT, Mayor

ATTEST:

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AMIE JOHANSEN, City Deputy Clerk

