Village of Empire

New Office Committee Meeting with Renovare

Meeting Minutes

Friday, May 3, 2024, 9:00 AM (Remote)

1. **Discussion of completion of Feasibility Contract. (Recap and recommendations)**

Our previous discussion with Renovare discussed the pros and cons of continuing the feasibility studies for the other two properties identified by the committee (Old School House and Hardware store). Renovare and the committee discussed offering an educational session for the Council and Planning Commission and residents focusing on the “why” and “how” a Village Government and taxpayers play in role in the development of private property. Renovare shared with the committee that several new laws have been passed regarding housing tax incremental financing (separate from a traditional TIFF program for commercial entities) that future developers might suggest to the Village Council as options in developing land in the Village.

Renovare shared a revised scope of work (see attached). The recommendation to the Council will be a single session, as a Special Meeting, that focuses on the basic principles related to government support for private developments. The session would include information about the tools available to a governmental entity in working with potential developers. This information is typically something an economic development officer, in a larger municipal setting, would be sharing with a Council or County Commission.

1. **Plan for DPW Garage**

Most of the Renovare work was put on hold during the last month. They are working on some interior and “skin” designs for the DPW building. The improvements in that space will include options for improved ventilation, reconfiguring spaces to accommodate an office for the DPW Tech - (who will be entering and maintain data related to water, parks, streets, sidewalks, etc) and still provide for a small meeting space or office space for Council or Planning Commission, if possible. Their plans will include a review of the estimated work on the exterior drainage issues.

1. **Outdoor Space Use for New Office Building**

We did not get to this agenda item.

Submitted,

Maggie Bacon