

City of Rock Falls Special Tourism Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 05/04/2020

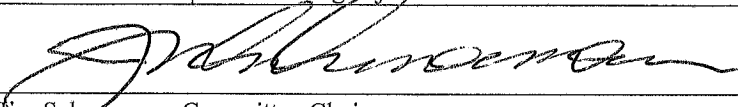
Time Meeting Started: 10:08 a.m.

Time Meeting Ended: 10:44 a.m.

Members		Also Attended	
Alderman Jim Schuneman	P	Mayor Wescott	P
Alderman Glen Kuhlemier	A	Megan Horsman	P
Brian Tribley	P		
Mike Sterba	A		
Amy Williamson	P		
Tom Rynott	P		
Bethany Bland	P		

Topic	Discussion	Plan of Action
Call to Order	The City of Rock Falls Special Tourism Committee Meeting was held electronically (via Zoom) due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Illinois Governor Pritzker's stay at home order. The meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m.	
Emergency Hospitality Grant and Small Business Grant	- The committee discussed an Emergency Hospitality Grant and Small Business Grant sponsored by City of Rock Falls Tourism. - Megan Horsman stated that the goal of these grants was to help business that have been shut down completely reopen and help the businesses that are open but not doing a 100% of their normal business to stay open. Only those business that have not qualified for other grants or loans will be eligible for these grants. The cap on the grant money will be \$200,000.00, Hospitality Grant will be up to \$12,000.00 and Small Business Grant will be up to \$5,000.00 - Mayor Wescott stated that we do not have to follow all of the guidelines like state or federal grants because this is City of Rock Falls money and we can make our own guidelines as how to distribute the grants. - Alderman Schuneman questioned how we would approve these grants. Megan would like the committee to give approval for Megan Horsman, Robbin Blackert, Bill Wescott, Jim Schuneman and Melinda Jones to review the applications that are submitted and award the grants to the eligible businesses. - Bethany Bland expressed concern over the timeframe for businesses to have their applications and supporting documentation in and thought maybe having a couple of rounds of the grant would be a better solution. - Brian Tribley agreed and thought that maybe accepting applications until May 31st would be a better solution. - Alderman Schuneman would like to make sure that the application process is cut off before we hit the \$200,000.00 limit. Also that all of the advertising for this grant (press releases, social media, chamber email blast) states that Rock Falls Tourism is donating the funds. - Brian Tribley made a motion and was second by Bethany Bland to approve the Emergency Hospitality Grant and Small Business Grant with a cap on the grant amount to be \$200,000.00. The Hospitality Grant will be up to \$15,000.00 per application and the Small Business Grant will be up to \$5,000.00. All Committee Members voted aye.	Approval of the Emergency Hospitality Grant and Small Business Grant
	Bethany Bland made a motion and was second by Brian Tribley to send Resolution 2020-848 Authorizing a Local Hospitality and Small Business Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00	Send Resolution 2020-848 to City Council for approval.

	• Next regular meeting will be held on May 13, 2020. • Sub Committee will meet on May 18, 2020 to review any applications that are received.	
Adjournment	• Meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m.	



Jim Schuneman, Committee Chairman