

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT and GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

July 1, 2024

**In Attendance:**

**Committee:** Chairman Bill Farnham, Councilman Rob Rice, Councilman Ryan Hicks

**City Staff:** John Doyle, Jen Worth, Doug Potts,

**Guests:** Councilman Hayden

**Media:**

**Absent:**

- **Call to Order-** Chairman Farnham called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
- **Citizen Comments-** No citizen comments.
- **Approval of minutes-** Councilman Rice made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from June 3, 2024. Chairman Farnham seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- **Business Spotlight-** July Business Spotlight- Rocky Top Pets. Doug Potts stated that Rocky Top Pets is under new ownership and will be undergoing a remodel.
- **SBEP-2, Grant Application-** Doug Potts stated the ARPA committee made available \$30,000 for a second municipal grant program, the Small Business Entrepreneur Program. This is specifically aimed at new businesses either building or relocating to Waynesville. Only 2 \$15,000 grants will be available 2024 and 2025. Doug Potts stated anyone can apply for this grant, but the businesses must be brand new or relocating to Waynesville.
- **Watchfire Proposal** Doug Potts stated the ARPA Committee made available \$40,000 for a digital sign at Route 66 and Hwy 17. The wooden Waynesville sign will hopefully be placed in the museum and preserved. Doug Potts stated \$25,000 of funds will be for actual purchase of sign board. The rest of the funds will be for infrastructure, engineering, planning, etc. Doug Potts stated ideally you want to build something around the sign to protect it from being hit by cars. The digital billboard can be used for advertising or putting messages on there.
- **Special Events**
  - Old Settlers Day- July 27-28
- **Other Business-** Having no other business, there was a need for a closed session. Councilman Bland made a motion to enter into closed session. Councilman Rice seconded that motion. Committee entered closed session at 5:20 p.m. Committee returned to open session at 6:37 p.m.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:37 pm

The next scheduled meeting will be held on July 1, 2024, at 5 p.m.