

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Special Development & Planning (D&P)
CHAIRPERSON: Merri Berlage
DATE/TIME: July 14, 2015, 6:06 p.m.

PRESENT:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Merri Berlage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Heurman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RJ Winkelhake
<input type="checkbox"/> Steve Rutz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John O'Boyle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Smith
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rick Dittmar		

A quorum was established.

Other Board members: Steve McIntyre, Dan Hughes
Others: Dan Reimer, Dave Young, Gary Quinn

1. **Citizens' Comments** No citizens present.
2. **Unfinished Business**
3. **New Business**

- a) Discussion and possible action to approve a Consulting Services Agreement with Opportunity Alliance, LLC for services associated with preparing an application for a new enterprise zone for the City of Freeport/Stephenson County Enterprise Zone. Gary Quinn, Chairman of the City of Freeport/Stephenson County Enterprise Zone provided an overview of the current enterprise zone and prospective new enterprise zone, the governing of a new zone, costs of the application, and the competitive nature of the application process. The current enterprise zone expires December 31, 2020. In 2013 the State amended the Enterprise Zone Act; there will be no more automatic extensions of enterprise zones. The Act authorizes the establishment of 97 new zones over a six year period. The first 49 enterprise zones were designated in 2015. The Committee discussed what a new enterprise zone in Jo Daviess County and Stephenson County would look like and the benefits of presenting the application as Northwest Illinois Enterprise Zone. Quinn discussed that the Enterprise Zone Board reviewed consulting firms and voted to recommend that a professional service agreement be awarded to Opportunity Alliance, LLC. The cost of the agreement is \$7,500 per month for 16 months and up to \$3,000 total reimbursement for reasonable and documented out of pocket pre-approved expenses. Applications for a new enterprise zone are due by December 31, 2015. **Rick Dittmar made a motion to approve a consulting agreement with Opportunity Alliance, LLC for services associated with preparing an application for a new enterprise zone for the City of Freeport/Stephenson County Enterprise Zone. Motion seconded by Bob Heurman. Motion passed.**
- b) Discussion and possible action regarding a Resolution to approve a consulting agreement with Opportunity Alliance, LLC for services associated with preparing an application for a new enterprise zone for the City of Freeport/Stephenson County Enterprise Zone. **RJ Winkelhake made a motion to approve a Resolution to approve a consulting agreement with Opportunity Alliance, LLC for services associated with preparing an application for a new enterprise zone for the City of Freeport/Stephenson County Enterprise Zone. Motion seconded by John O'Boyle. Motion passed.**

4. **Citizens' Comments**
5. **Board Member Concerns**

The next Development & Planning Committee meeting will be Tuesday, July 28, at 7:00 p.m.

John O'Boyle made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bob Heurman and motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.