

**MINUTES**  
**ECONOMIC PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**JUNE 5, 2023, 6PM**  
**CITY HALL - COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**5 E. BUTLER ROAD**  
**5<sup>th</sup> and final committee meeting**

Committee Members present: Taft Matney (Chair) and Jason Kraeling. Councilwoman Kuzniar was out of town.

Others present: Community Development Director JR Charles and City Administrator Seth Duncan.

1. **Call to Order-** Chairman Matney

2. **Public Comment-** None

3. **Reading and Approval of Minutes**

a. Economic Development Committee Minutes May 1, 2023

**Motion:** Councilman Kraeling made a motion to approve the minutes with Chairman Matney seconding.

**Vote:** The vote was unanimous (2-0).

4. **Reports or Communications from City Officers**

a. Economic Development Department Director J.R. Charles

i. Budget Review

The department has 29% remaining. Cultural Affairs has 1% remaining.

Amp'd Up Fridays is going well. T-shirts will be provided for Council.

You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown just wrapped up.

The Arts camp starts next week.

Maverick Yards Groundbreaking will take place Monday at 9:00 a.m.

5. **Unfinished Business-** There is no unfinished business.

6. **New Business**

a. Lights and Sound System for Cultural Center

In its FY23 budget, the City Council authorized the expenditure of \$75,000 to install permanent lights and sound equipment in the Amphitheater at the Mauldin Cultural Center. City staff reached out to various production vendors to assess the project, and staff was advised of the following:

Cost: the cost to install lights and sound in the amphitheater would be approximately \$175,000. This quote outstripped the capital planning.

Structural Integrity of the Canopy: consultants advised against installing any equipment on the canopy structure due to unknown weight capacities/limitations. Any reinforcement to the structure would be an additional cost not provided in the capital request.

Security/Safety of the Equipment: Without any structural changes to the canopy, all of the equipment would be exposed to weather, theft, and unforeseen damage. It was advised that, unless the Mauldin Cultural Center staff intended to take down the equipment and store it in the center itself, the lighting and sound structures would be at unnecessary risk.

Given these factors, City staff asked the vendors to quote a project to enhance and/or replace elements of the Cultural Center's theater. The theater is due for updated equipment in the near-term, so rather than forego the capital earmarked for the amphitheater, City staff assessed the improvements that such an expenditure could provide. Two vendors provided quotes: Productions Unlimited (Roebuck, SC) and TINC Productions (New York City, New York.)

Productions Unlimited quoted their scope of work at \$72,288. This quote is in line with the \$75,000 of capital allocated to the original Amphitheater Lights and Sound capital improvement as outlined in the FY23 budget.

Staff is asking to have the Mayor authorize the use of the FY23 capital improvements, originally planned for the Mauldin Cultural Center Amphitheater, for the use of upfitting/improving the lights/sound in the Mauldin Cultural Center Theater, as well as execute all documents related to a contract between the City of Mauldin and Productions Unlimited for the Lights/Sound improvements.

Chairman Matney asked if there was a line item to allow for rental of lighting or sound at the amphitheater. Mr. Charles said each department has its own line item.

Councilman Kraeling asked how much it costs to rent. Mr. Charles said it is about 3,000 dollars for each event. He will have a number by the Council meeting.

**Motion:** Councilman Kraeling made a motion to send this item to Council with Chairman Matney seconding.

**Vote:** The vote was unanimous (2-0).

- b. Public Art Trail- With new staff, direction is asked for on the public art trail. A budget, a location, schedule to bring in a new artist has all been proactively done. Chairman Matney said Council is a policy making body, not management. His thought is what staff is putting together needs to be fine-tuned so committee can forward a draft to Council.

**Motion:** Councilman Kraeling made a motion to send this item to Council with Chairman Matney seconding.

**Vote:** The vote was unanimous (2-0).

c. Leadership Golden Strip – Mural at MCC

Leadership Golden Strip has chosen to install murals in Fountain Inn, Simpsonville, and Mauldin as their class project, and it has chosen Art Houzze (<https://www.arthouzze.com/>) to manage this project. The class has identified the Mauldin Cultural Center’s north exterior wall as an art location.

Art Houzze would like to find a date/time in which it can conduct a listening session with the Mauldin City Council in order to create a vision for a mural at the Mauldin Cultural Center.

Art Houzze has quoted a 15-foot wide x 20-foot high mural in each city for \$10,059.40 each. Leadership Golden Strip has pledged to raise the funding for this project. It has asked the City of Mauldin to participate. The Community Development Department proposes contributing \$5,000 that will be paid out of unused FY 2023 H&A funds with the balance coming from fundraising efforts by Leadership Golden Strip.

**Motion:** Councilman Kraeling made a motion to send this item to Council with Chairman Matney seconding.

**Vote:** The vote was unanimous (2-0).

**7. Public Comment-** None

**8. Committee Concerns**

Councilman Kraeling asked Mr. Charles if there was a way to speed up the beer line at City events such as Amp’d up Fridays. Chairman Matney said a new trailer has been purchased with more taps that should help with the problem.

**9. Adjournment-** Chairman Matney adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cindy Miller  
Municipal Clerk