

MINUTES
ECONOMIC PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 6, 2025, 6PM
CITY HALL - COUNCIL CHAMBERS
5 E. BUTLER ROAD
2nd committee meeting

Committee Members present were Taft Matney (Chair), Mark Steenback and Jason Kraeling. City Administrator Seth Duncan was also present.

1. Call to Order- Chairman Matney

2. Public Comment- None

3. Reading and Approval of Minutes

a. Economic Development Committee Minutes December 2, 2024

Motion: Councilman Kraeling made a motion to approve the minutes with Councilman Steenback seconding.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (3-0).

4. Reports or Communications from City Officers

a. City Administrator Seth Duncan

Mr. Duncan reported on new City businesses that are opening soon- a children's daycare, an urgent care facility, and a dentist office. Taco Bell will also be located on North Main Street. Bridgeway Market has taken over operation of the market at Bridgeway Station.

Development continues at City Center. Railroad signalization should be installed some time next week on Murray and similar equipment (control box, cross arms, etc.) will be installed on Jenkins Street and Murray Drive in the few weeks. The railroad crossing at Alexander Street will be decommissioned and there will be a detour. The City hopes the time between the closure at Alexander and the opening at Jenkins Street will be short lived.

5. Unfinished Business- There is no unfinished business.

6. New Business

a. Discussion: Amphitheater Stage Cover

In September 2024, the amphitheater stage was hit by a falling tree during Hurricane Helene, destroying the stage cover and damaging the fascia of the stage. Staff are working on options to replace the stage cover which will allow for the continuation of safe and effective stage use for concerts and performances, all while elevating the overall

experience for the community and tourists.

The previous stage cover was a donated structure composed of wood in 2016. Staff are looking at prefabricated options made of either steel or wood that can be constructed and installed more quickly.

Upon inspection of the damaged cover in September, staff found the structure was suffering from rot in multiple places. In addition, the wood structure did not have the load-bearing capacity to support stage rigging or to upfit it to hold speakers and lights. For the new cover, staff's preference is to move forward with a steel structure that will support rigging, incorporate basic overhead lighting, and have better long-term durability.

Staff intend to release an RFP immediately following this meeting to secure exact bids from qualified suppliers. Gina McAtee, Special Project Manager will be heading the project. This item is for discussion only.

Committee directed the RFP to be sent out for a steel structure.

b. PARD Grant Acceptance- Mauldin Amphitheater [Pages

The City recently applied for a PARD grant to construct a new cover for the Mauldin Amphitheater at the Mauldin Cultural Center. The grant is part of a regular distribution of PARD funds to state delegation members and is allocated to each municipality in Greenville County. Staff originally thought to bank the money for another year to tackle a larger project, but after Hurricane Helene destroyed the amphitheater cover in October, staff thought it would be better to utilize those funds to address this immediate need.

Staff received notice recently of the award from PARD for the use of \$77,738.28 for the construction of a new cover for the Mauldin Amphitheater. The grant does require a local match of \$19,434.57 and will go towards a project budget of approximately \$400,000.

Chairman Matney asked where the \$19,434.57 match would come from. Mr. Duncan answered the City's A-Tax fund, the County A-Tax program, or any private donation that might go towards the project. These funds could be stacked to go towards the match.

Motion: Councilman Kraeling made a motion to approve the PARD grant award in the amount of \$77,738.28 with the match of \$19,434.57 with Councilman Steenback seconding.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (3-0).

c. A-Tax Grant Recommendations

The state imposes a 2% tax on all accommodations statewide. The S.C. Department of Revenue collects this tax and distributes it back to the cities and counties based on the location where the tax was collected. In the state accommodations tax special fund designated for tourism-related expenditures, the City of Mauldin currently has \$103,487.80 available. These funds are reaching the end of their availability and must be expended.

After advertising for applications for the use of the funds in the special fund for tourism-related expenditures, the City of Mauldin has received two applications. These applications include the following:

Marketing for Mauldin Blues and Jazz	Mauldin Cultural Center	\$ 3,487.80
Cultural Center Amphitheater Stage Cover	Mauldin Cultural Center	\$100,000.00

At their meeting on December 11, 2024, the Mauldin Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee reviewed both applications. The committee unanimously voted to recommend that each application be funded in the full amount requested.

Motion: Councilman Steenback made a motion to forward the recommendation of the Mauldin Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee to City Council with a recommendation of approval to allocate \$3,487.80 for marketing for the Mauldin Blues and Jazz Festival and \$100,000.00 for a new stage cover at the Mauldin Cultural Center Amphitheater.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (3-0).

7. Public Comment- None

8. Committee Concerns- None

9. Adjournment- Chairman Matney adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Miller
Municipal Clerk