

**Economic Development of Cameron
Joint Park Board Meeting
November 7, 2013
6:15 pm
Cameron City Hall – Lower Level**

Members Present:

Chairman Bill Gimson
Jennifer Helmich
Matt Jameson
Jason Jones

Carrie Sybert
Kari Teel
Michael Teegarden

Members Absent:

Al Briggs
Jamey McVicker

EDOC Members:

Kent Osborn
Terry Rumery
Mike O'Donnell
Mike Poland
Mark Garges

Mark Gaugh
Joe Abrutz
Dennis Clark
Dr. Matt Robinson

Others Attending:

Drew Bontrager – Public Works Director
Steve Garr – Parks Director
Chris Johnson, Cameron Newspaper

Economic Development of Cameron (EDOC) and the Park Board met at 6:00pm to discuss the proposed ½ cent economic development tax. Over the duration of the proposed tax, it would generate revenue of approximately \$8.5 million.

Since the last joint session on September 26, 2013, there were questions asked by the Park Board members and sent to the EDOC board for clarification.

1. How will the Economic Tax Board be decided?
 - The governing board will be decided after the proposed tax is passed and City Council will be responsible for appointing the members. The Board will consist of 1 school district member, 1 member from the county (since there are two counties, both counties will have to be in agreement) and 3 members will be appointed by the mayor. The appointed Board will oversee the tax money and will choose the projects. City Council will have final approval.
 - The selected and *built* projects will be owned and ran by the City/Park Board.
2. How will the proposed tax be promoted to the community?
 - The City is only able to put out factual information to the community. They cannot direct the community how to vote but can encourage the citizens to vote.
 - Park Board funds can be used to educate the public.

3. Who designs the projects?
 - Park Board and EDOC will design the projects but the projects will still need City Council approval
4. Agreement between EDOC and Park Board
 - It would be best to have a *memo of understanding* between the two groups showing that there is agreement with the selected projects. The agreement should be presented to City Council.
5. Extend the Bond
 - The bond can be extended; however, it makes it a harder sale to the community and interest rate will be higher.
6. The proposed tax will be able to bond \$8.5 million.
 - \$3.25 million will go towards the pool
 - \$1.6 million plus \$400,000 for land will be set aside for the clover leaf ball fields
 - \$2.5 million for economic development activities such as land acquisition, potential spec building, infrastructure improvements.
 - \$750,000 will be set aside for a variety of smaller projects. I.e. Boy Scout camp, RV Park, landing strip, trails, etc.
 - Olson & Associates completed the estimates for the RV Park, trails, etc.
7. How will the Park Board be secure with the current monies to maintain the ball fields and other new projects? I.e. purchase equipment and personnel to run facilities.
 - The Park Board would need to begin charging for the use of the different facilities and services that are provided.

The economic development tax can be used for the redevelopment of historic areas. 20% must be directly related to long term development which can include land, water treatment, public facilities and streets. Public recreation fits into long term developments.

No more than 25% of the tax can be used annually for administration purposes (staff and maintenance).

The ballot language can help determine what projects are the main focuses of the tax. This will insure they are guaranteed to be completed.

Mr. Osborn stated that Cameron's sales tax is lower than surrounding communities. With the new ambulance tax, the Clinton County sales tax is 7.975%.

Mr. O'Donnell recommended to not sunset the tax. If the tax is sunset, they City would have to start over again with a new tax to continue improvements and replace existing structures.

The Park Board agreed that the economic development tax should not be sunset.

Mayor Clark stated that there is no downside to sun-setting the tax. Economic development will always be needed in the community.

Mr. Teegarden made a motion that the Park Board will work in cooperation with EDOC to prepare a proposal to send to City Council to ask for the ½ cent economic development sales tax; seconded by Mr. Jones. On voice vote the motion carries as follows: ayes – 7, nays – 0, abstentions – 0, absent – 2.

Duane Buckmaster was present at the meeting. He owns 93 acres on Bob Griffin Road and is open to options to sell the land for development purposes.

Mayor Dennis Clark informed the members present of upcoming projects in the community. There is currently \$35,000 in the budget for a holiday lighting project. City Council is preparing a presentation of

ideas to see if the project will benefit Cameron. Mayor Clark will request to the council that the proposal goes to the Park Board and EDOC for review.

Mr. O'Donnell summarized the meeting:

- Park Board is in agreement to work with the EDOC committee.
- The ½ cent sales tax will be pursued with no sunset put in place.

Mr. O'Donnell stated that a question that needs to be answered is if the tax needs to be passed before the five person board is appointed.

The public will want to know how much the aquatic facility and ball complex will cost to operate. A master plan will need to be developed so these questions can be answered properly.

Terry Rumery volunteered to help the Park Board put together costs (revenues and expenses) for a ball complex. The Park Board already has concrete numbers for the proposed aquatic facility.

Mr. Osborn will put together a packet of information of the projects EDOC has focuses on and deliver the information to the Park Board. A presentation needs to be put together by the 2nd week in December.

Mayor Clark stated that City Council will take the economic development tax proposal in three readings. The proposal needs to be given to Council by January.

EDOC will review and vote on the presentation to City Council and send it on to the Park Board for approval at their next meeting on December 5, 2013.

EDOC's next meeting will be on November 21, 2013.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45 pm.

Chris O'Donnell
Secretary Recorder
Cameron, MO 64429

Bill Gimson
12/5/13