



CITY OF SOUTH PORTLAND

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James H. Gailey
City Manager

EXECUTIVE
DEPARTMENT

MINUTES

Economic Development Committee

Wednesday, June 18, 2014

6:00 to 8:00 PM

City Hall – Lower Conference Room

Attendees:

Dave Owen - District 1
Sergio Gadder – District 2
William Collins – District 5
Steve Bushey – At-large

Bob O'Brien - Business
Ed Palmer - Business
Mike Vaillancourt - Business
Craig Gorris - Business

Jon Jennings – Assistant City Manager

Absent:

Martin Macisso - District 3
Peter Stocks – District 4
John Schwartzman – At-Large

1. Approval of Minutes from April 16, 2014 (5-0)
2. Moratorium Update and Discussion

There was a general discussion by the committee of the proposed ordinance banning tar/oil sands from the city. Bill Collins discussed the implications of non-conforming use of property and what impact it will have on the city. Mike Vaillancourt said the citizens of the city do not want tar sands, but is concerned whether this will end up in court and if the city can be successful. Steve Bushey discussed the long term impact the new ordinance will have on the city. What will be the economic fallout if the industry changes or leaves the city and is there a future plan to deal with the possibility. Sergio Gadder discussed the natural evolution of all industries and the impact of the ordinance on future economic development for the city.

3. City Climate Action Plan

Dave Owen discussed the history of the climate action plan and suggested later phases of the plan. He specifically mentioned the need to look at creating greater efficiencies in residential and commercial energy use. He recommended that the city launch an effort to do outreach to residents, property owners, landlords, and commercial owners to educate about the benefits of increased energy efficiency in all buildings in the city. He suggested this would be a beneficial future phase of the Climate Action Plan.

4. Mill Creek Zoning

Jon Jennings gave an overall update on the possible zoning changes for the Mill Creek area of the city. He also identified current issues preventing development in Mill Creek and Knightville. The committee discussed the need for additional parking in Knightville/Mill Creek to fully maximize development opportunities. The suggestion was to engage the neighborhood association and Waterfront Market Association to discuss possible alternatives and the overall need. It was also suggested that an inventory be done of existing parking.

5. Other

- There was an overall discussion of looking at the feasibility of future solar use on all municipal buildings especially the new public works building.
- Some members of the committee asked that the city look at American made electric vehicles when looking at leasing EV's for future use.

Adjourned: 7:30 pm

Cordially,

Jon P. Jennings
Assistant City Manager