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                BEFORE THE VILLAGE OF BARTLETT
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                ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
    IN RE THE MATTER OF:
 3
    Video Contest Award and
    Marketing Plan.
 5
                    REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
 6
                      September 14, 2015
                           7:00 P.M.
 8
             PROCEEDINGS had and testimony taken before
 9
     the Bartlett Economic Development Commission of
10
     the above-entitled cause taken at the Village
11
     Hall, 228 South Main Street, Bartlett, Illinois,
12
     before LYNN M. EVANS, C.S.R., License #084-003473,
13
     a Notary Public qualified and commissioned for
14
     the State of Illinois.
15
     COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:
16
        MR. GERALD KUBASZKO, Chairman.
        MS. TRACY SMODILLA, Member.
17
        MS. DONNA WEIR, Member.
        MR. NAYAN MEHTA, Member.
18
        MR. BARRY KRALL, Member.
        MR. ROBERT PERRI, Member.
19
     ALSO PRESENT:
20
        MR. JIM PLONCZYNSKI, Community Development
21
              Director.
22
        MR. TONY FRADIN, Economic Development
               Coordinator.
23
        MS. PAULA SCHUMACHER, Assistant Village
24
              Administrator.
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- 1 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: We'll call to order for
- 2 the Bartlett Economic Development Commission
- 3 meeting of September 14th.
- 4 May we have a roll call?
- 5 MR. FRADIN: Gerald Kubaszko.
- 6 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: Here.
- 7 MR. FRADIN: Cecilia Green.
- 8 Donna Weir.
- 9 MS. WEIR: Here.
- 10 MR. FRADIN: Robert Perri.
- 11 MR. PERRI: Here.
- 12 MR. FRADIN: Nayan Mehta.
- MR. MEHTA: Here.
- 14 MR. FRADIN: Jeff Petro.
- 15 Tracy Smodilla.
- 16 Barry Krall.
- 17 MR. KRALL: Here.
- 18 MR. FRADIN: And Mike Sobel not here, but we
- 19 do have five, so we have a quorum tonight.
- 20 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: Okay. Next order of
- 21 business on the agenda would be the approval of
- the July 13th, 2015 meeting minutes.
- Do we have any discussion?
- Do we have a motion to approve?

- 1 MS. WEIR: I make a motion that we approve the
- 2 minutes.
- 3 MR. PERRI: I second.
- 4 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: Motion carried. Minutes
- 5 are approved.
- 6 MR. FRADIN: I'm just going to state for the
- 7 record Commissioner Smodilla is present.
- 8 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: Tony, I believe you want
- 9 to say something about the video contest winner
- 10 that we have present with us.
- 11 MR. FRADIN: Yes. Thank you, Jerry. You
- 12 recall earlier this year the Economic Development
- 13 Commission and the administration department put
- 14 out a video contest. The goal of which was to
- 15 promote local business here in Bartlett. Back at
- 16 the June Economic Development Commission meeting,
- 17 the commission viewed five videos that were
- 18 submitted on five different subject matters; and
- 19 after viewing them, the EDC put it to a vote and
- 20 unanimously selected the video that was promoting
- 21 the Heritage Days event that we just had in
- 22 downtown Bartlett from this past Friday to
- 23 yesterday. Dr. Rosanne Derango is both a very
- long time business owner here in the downtown

- 1 area, very active in numerous committees and
- 2 organizations here in the village, somebody you
- 3 would call a very good corporate tenant, and it
- 4 was her video that she submitted promoting
- 5 Heritage Days that was selected for the gift card
- 6 award, which we have tonight; and Jerry Kubaszko
- 7 is in possession of it and would ask you to say
- 8 some words on it and to present it to her on
- 9 behalf of the EDC.
- 10 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: Okay. We would like to
- 11 congratulate Dr. Rosanne Derango for submitting
- 12 the winning entry. Of the five submitted and
- 13 reviewed, she was the winner, so Dr. Derango, we
- 14 would like to present you with a little \$250 gift
- 15 certificate from Home --
- 16 MS. DURANGO: I have to say the Apple store
- 17 helped me.
- 18 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: Congratulations.
- 19 (Applause.)
- 20 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: Okay. The next order of
- 21 business will be discussion on the revised
- 22 marketing plan that we're going to discuss
- 23 tonight.
- MR. FRADIN: For this I'm turning it over to

- 1 my colleague, Assistant Village Administrator
- 2 Paula Schumacher, who is the lead person on this
- 3 project.
- 4 MS. SCHUMACHER: Hi. Happy to be back to you
- 5 tonight. At your July meeting, we looked at a
- 6 couple of plans, one from Cary, one from Lombard,
- 7 for their formatting. We looked at an overall
- 8 summary of some of the marketing efforts that we
- 9 currently do, and the EDC asked that we organize
- 10 it by development location and so we've done
- 11 that.
- 12 Tony has put together the demographic
- information for each of those areas. That's
- 14 included in the packet, as well as a map of the
- 15 available sites and those parcels, and then
- 16 before that are the goals that we outlined for
- 17 each of those areas and wanted to get your
- 18 thoughts on those goals. You know, we identified
- 19 that, yes, certainly they wouldn't be the same
- 20 goals for each area, but there was some overlap,
- 21 especially with some of the things in terms of
- 22 the same counties and those kinds of things, but
- 23 did want to hear from you before we let it out to
- the community for their input as well, that was

- one of the things that your board asked that we
- 2 do, that we get feedback from the broader
- 3 community on those goals as well.
- 4 So if we can start, do you want to walk
- 5 through it or would you just have comments in
- 6 general?
- MR. PERRI: I thought it was a good idea to
- 8 walk through it.
- 9 MS. SCHUMACHER: Sure. The first area is the
- 10 downtown. Here we have a continuation of the EDC
- 11 recommendations for the downtown. That is a
- 12 continuing project for us. A number of those
- 13 elements are relative to marketing. A lot of the
- 14 signage and promotion items from that report
- 15 would fall under here.
- The RTA project was kicked off a few weeks
- 17 ago; and certainly whatever work comes out of
- 18 that or input that we do with them during their
- 19 process, there is going to be a lot of opportunity
- 20 for feedback with that group.
- 21 Supporting community events that bring
- 22 people to downtown, that is certainly one that is
- 23 in our strategic plan and relative to the
- 24 downtown.

- 1 Continuing the shop local efforts. Those
- would include things that we do on the website,
- 3 the coupon insert into the Bartletter, the dining
- 4 guide, and the special ads that Tony's done that
- 5 you're familiar with; and continue to use
- 6 traditional advertisement newsletter, and social
- 7 media to promote new and existing businesses; the
- 8 section of the Bartletter that Tony writes, the
- 9 information that he puts up on the Discover
- 10 Bartlett, Discover Downtown Facebook page when
- 11 there is new businesses or there's a promotion.
- 12 Those kind of things fall under there.
- 13 Target text sensitive businesses, that was
- 14 something that was brought up by the Village
- 15 board. It was one of the things that had come
- 16 up, I think, from the Village board or one of the
- 17 comments that we had.
- 18 MS. WEIR: I think from the ECC plan.
- 19 MS. SCHUMACHER: Oh, Spartan Consulting.
- 20 Thank you. I'm sorry. I figured downtown would
- 21 probably be one of the more appropriate places
- 22 for that kind of goal; and then develop a
- 23 relationship with local community colleges and
- 24 universities, that also came from the Spartan

- 1 plan.
- 2 So if I can have your thoughts on downtown
- 3 goals.
- 4 MS. SMODILLA: Thanks, Paula. Again, without
- 5 the benefit of being at the July meeting, I
- 6 appreciate the opportunity to review those
- 7 meeting minutes and, certainly, the input from
- 8 commissioners at that meeting.
- 9 However, what struck me from the recent
- 10 packet that we received is -- and let me just go
- 11 back and say I appreciate the segmenting of the
- 12 distinct business districts that we have in
- 13 Bartlett. I think that's a really strong place
- 14 for us as an EDC to start what we know just from
- 15 what we see in terms of opportunity and the
- 16 successes the Brewster Creek and the district
- 17 that's out on Route 25, we know that we've got
- 18 very specific targeted audiences for those
- 19 districts. Certainly, the efforts that have been
- 20 put forth in attracting the food industry into
- 21 Brewster Creek I think highlights the success.
- 22 Again, to paraphrase Mr. Plonczynski's
- 23 comments about, you know, there is just some
- 24 industries that nobody really wants. They're

- 1 very valuable and viable industries in the
- 2 locations that we're at, but that said, what
- 3 we're missing in this packet, and again this is
- 4 just my opinion from a place of being in sales
- 5 and marketing for a very long time, is that what
- 6 we're missing is a very, very specific plan for
- 7 each of these different, distinct business
- 8 districts; and I know that the downtown area
- 9 continues to be a bit of a preponderance for not
- 10 just us as the EDC, but, certainly, that of the
- 11 community, and I can see where economic
- 12 development is struggling with that, so before we
- 13 even have these action items on here, because
- 14 they're action items, not necessarily goals, I
- 15 think at some point we really need to come back
- 16 to the reality of what is specific and
- 17 appropriate for downtown. I like the idea that
- 18 the Spartan marketing, their ideas from their
- 19 presentation back in December are finally being
- 20 addressed.
- 21 At some point we do need to identify
- 22 businesses that are going to increase the daytime
- 23 census in downtown Bartlett. The reality of
- 24 brick and mortar, mom and pop stores is tenuous

- 1 at best these days. People are shopping
- 2 differently. People are not necessarily coming
- 3 into downtown Bartlett, so I think we need to
- 4 really start to identify a different way of
- 5 targeting and addressing those new businesses
- 6 that have the opportunity -- that would be
- 7 looking for a great opportunity that I think the
- 8 village of Bartlett could give them, especially
- 9 for the start-up ones, and I'm very encouraged by
- 10 the flyer that was on the dais this evening for
- 11 REV3 Innovation Center. I think this is
- 12 specifically what Spartan marketing was talking
- 13 about when we discussed this with them last
- 14 summer and last fall and, again, this is -- it
- 15 looks like this is a project that's being done.
- 16 It looks like it's a private and public
- 17 partnership with a university, so I think really
- 18 that's where we need to start looking at on each
- 19 of these.
- 20 Again, specifically for the downtown area,
- 21 but again going back to a robust plan, I think
- 22 what we should be seeing in the future is one
- 23 that articulates, you know, targeted objectives,
- 24 expectations that we have for each of the

- 1 different business districts. Certainly, we
- 2 should be looking at more criteria. I was
- 3 encouraged when, again paraphrasing,
- 4 Mr. Plonczynski from the minutes, when he says
- 5 there is a ton of sales tax revenue. I think we
- 6 should really be identifying those industries,
- 7 specifically, you know, where we can find those
- 8 public and private partnerships, where we can,
- 9 again, generate a ton of revenue, but I think
- 10 that's probably going to have to come from maybe
- 11 even doing an investigation of SIC codes, for
- 12 example; and, again, as I was reading the notes,
- 13 Commissioner Sobel had said that, you know,
- 14 moving forward we just need to do a really good
- 15 job of, you know, communicating what those
- 16 expectations are of the district and, again, to
- 17 the public, particularly if there are going to be
- 18 public funds expended.
- 19 MS. WEIR: Actually, I too did have in my
- 20 notes that I was hoping that it would be more
- 21 specific, the goals.
- 22 MS. SCHUMACHER: When you say more specific,
- 23 do you want to say, you know, target X, Y and Z?
- I mean, tell me what that might look like so that

- 1 I clearly understand what you're looking for.
- MS. WEIR: When I look at the first one, it
- 3 says continue to implement the EDC downtown
- 4 recommendations. I quess I would be -- you know,
- 5 in that particular one, we could be very targeted
- 6 as to, you know, we gave a list of what our
- 7 recommendations were and to pick the ones that
- 8 we're going to follow up on and actually list
- 9 those out probably. I guess that's what I'm
- 10 looking for as far as being specific so that we
- 11 actually -- so I think -- and maybe that's part
- of the overall plan, maybe the goals are supposed
- to be more bullet points, but I did have the same
- 14 comments. I thought it would be more specific.
- 15 It should be more specific.
- 16 MR. METHA: Based on all the minutes that I
- 17 was going through, it is like you mentioned over
- 18 there, it is very important to know from the
- 19 beginning some of the very specific requirement,
- 20 not only general marketing plan, but in marketing
- 21 plan has so many areas which needs to be
- 22 addressed because marketing plan can be very --
- 23 can be done in a very different way, but what are
- 24 the limitations of village, what are the

- 1 limitations of neighborhoods, what are the
- 2 limitations of our residents, and finally, what
- 3 are the limitations of the financials that we
- 4 have on the budgeting.
- Based on that, we will be able to come up
- 6 with the goals; and, accordingly, the vision
- 7 statement will have to be framed and, accordingly,
- 8 we can start working on and probably put some
- 9 input, otherwise based on the last experience
- 10 probably, the recommendations can be wonderful,
- 11 but may not be in line with what actually
- 12 residents are looking because residents are
- 13 looking from a different angle and the board is
- 14 looking from a different angle looks like because
- 15 we are looking at only economic points while the
- 16 residents don't have any idea about what board is
- 17 thinking of, so how we can merge that so that at
- 18 the end of the day it has to be -- the whole
- 19 project has to be such that residents naturally
- 20 feel likely when we say that because we want the
- 21 city to be there and to flourish and people has
- 22 to be happy living in this city. I want to be
- 23 proud to be in Bartlett, so we === that
- 24 clarification if it is provided along with when

- 1 we set up this goal would also help.
- 2 MR. PERRI: I think in addition to what my
- 3 friend here says, a lot of these goals here, I
- 4 think most of them we went over them in our EDC
- 5 downtown recommendations, and I think what we're
- 6 trying to say here let's be more specific on what
- 7 was done or what is going to be done on our
- 8 downtown recommendations. I mean, if you look at
- 9 the first three, four, five, these are
- 10 recommendations that we wanted implemented when
- 11 we made the recommendations a couple of months
- 12 ago, so what specifically is being done or going
- to be done or can be done or won't be done?
- 14 You agree?
- 15 MR. METHA: Yep.
- 16 MS. WEIR: I mean, a couple of them I think
- 17 are just fine, you know, as far as supporting
- 18 community events that bring people to downtown,
- 19 continue to shop local efforts with the coupons,
- 20 the dining guide, the special ads. I think
- 21 that's very specific to me when you tell me
- 22 exactly what our expectation is and what we're
- 23 going to do.
- I think the first one just kind of throws

- 1 me. Even the next one, continue using traditional
- 2 advertisement, newsletters, that's okay by me,
- 3 but when we say target tech sensitive businesses,
- 4 how are we going to do that? What are we going
- 5 to do?
- 6 MR. PERRI: In addition, what does Bartlett
- 7 have to offer to a tech business? I mean, do we
- 8 have a tech --
- 9 MS. SMODILLA: Empty space.
- 10 MR. PERRI: Do we have a tech business center?
- 11 There is a lot of empty spaces in every town.
- MS. WEIR: But you could, you could, take that
- 13 concept -- and I'm just talking general concept --
- 14 you could take that concept and you could really
- 15 build that into something. You could make that
- 16 into an incubator, you know, where you get banks
- 17 that are involved in financing to bring -- you
- 18 know, like you have banks where you have village
- 19 incentives to bring those types of businesses
- 20 here, so when you're targeting them, I think
- 21 that's what we're talking about. Okay. I get
- 22 it, just like Commissioner Smodilla said, we have
- 23 the space available. We want -- we're interested
- 24 in bringing that group in here, so what are we

- 1 going to do to make it more attractive? So there
- 2 are ways that we can do that, you know, and what
- 3 are we going to do to do that?
- 4 MS. SMODILLA: Absolutely, and I would just --
- 5 MR. PERRI: Are we talking about the downtown
- 6 area or are we talking about Bartlett in general?
- 7 MS. WEIR: Well, this specific one is listed
- 8 for downtown. It could technically be on
- 9 multiple. You know, it could be in multiple. It
- 10 could be for Brewster Creek. It could be in
- 11 multiple areas of downtown. Maybe we need to
- 12 find out which area will be better suited for it.
- MR. PERRI: Well, that was my next question
- 14 was I don't see anywhere downtown where tech
- 15 centers could be implemented. It would have to
- 16 be in another part of the village.
- 17 MS. SMODILLA: I would disagree with that,
- 18 Commissioner Perri, only because -- especially
- 19 with -- if we were to establish an incubator in
- 20 downtown Bartlett, some of the assets that we
- 21 have available to us that would attract small
- 22 tech businesses, I would say the fact that, one,
- 23 having a tech center would have a very, very low
- 24 impact on the infrastructure, which would be very

- 1 important to us because it wouldn't require a
- 2 massive build-out of the downtown.
- 3 Yes, we have the retail space. Really,
- 4 that's all that small companies are looking for.
- We're on the rail line, so we could actually
- 6 attract young entrepreneurs from Elgin or from as
- far away as downtown Chicago, those that perhaps
- 8 wouldn't -- would actually look at being on the
- 9 rail line as being an opportunity to use public
- 10 transportation rather than drive a car.
- 11 MS. WEIR: Or, you know, like taking on the
- 12 transportation concept, you could, you know, if
- 13 you're going to work on a Brewster Creek concept
- 14 and make the incentive out in Brewster Creek
- area, you know, you could develop some type of a
- 16 transport system from the train. That's
- 17 generally done with a company, but it's something
- 18 that maybe the Village incents. It's all theory.
- 19 It's all concept. It's all, you know -- I'm not
- 20 saying it's what we should do. I'm just saying
- 21 that -- if I were going to put that under a goal,
- 22 that's what I would target. It's just like what
- 23 are we going to do?
- 24 MR. PERRI: Where would you imagine a tech

- 1 center downtown?
- MS. WEIR: Again, I'm not saying it should or
- 3 should not be in the downtown area.
- 4 MR. PERRI: I was trying to be more specific
- 5 because we're talking about the downtown area and
- 6 then we had here target tech sensitive
- 7 businesses, so if we're talking about downtown, I
- 8 would like to know where.
- 9 MS. WEIR: I mean, if you're talking about an
- 10 Apple, you know, you got to go to Brewster Creek.
- 11 If you're talking about something that -- if
- 12 you're talking about targeting smaller businesses,
- 13 you could still do Brewster Creek because they do
- 14 have business -- you know, they have condos,
- 15 business condos, out there that are smaller in
- 16 nature, as I'm sure you know, that, you know,
- 17 they don't need large -- you know, they don't
- 18 need large square footage, but, you know, we do
- 19 have, you know, depending on what we -- you know,
- 20 what the Village decides, we decide, or whoever
- 21 decides, I mean there is room in this village
- 22 somewhere or in multiple areas to have a tech
- 23 center.
- MR. PERRI: That I agree with, somewhere there

- 1 is room for a tech center. I was trying to be
- 2 more specific on trying to find out what we're
- 3 talking about here in relation to downtown.
- 4 MS. SMODILLA: Sure. I would also say that
- 5 using the term tech center, that's a rather broad
- 6 and nebulous term still, but if you whittle it
- 7 down, I mean, tech can be an application of a
- 8 small security monitoring company to somebody
- 9 large like a computer processing or computer
- 10 manufacturing company that would be appropriate
- 11 to Brewster Creek; it could be one of these
- 12 companies that's starting to become more involved
- with 3D printing that would easily take up retail
- 14 space. I think the more specific we could be,
- 15 and again this is why I think that maybe getting
- 16 a report from, I think it would come from the --
- 17 I'm not sure if it's the Federal Trade
- 18 Commission, but to identify those standard --
- 19 those standard industry classifications to find
- 20 out where the growth is in the technology
- 21 industry and, you know, what the prospect looks
- 22 like for those companies.
- 23 I think that another resource that we
- 24 could look into specifically for that would be

- 1 Elgin Community College and the College of DuPage
- 2 because, certainly, they have phenomenal computer
- 3 science programs and technology based programs
- 4 where they're going to have students coming out
- 5 that are either going to be working for somebody
- 6 or else taking an entrepreneurial path, and I
- 7 think we should really try to lay the foundation
- 8 for capturing those people.
- 9 MR. PERRI: Well, again, I say unless you tell
- 10 me where there is some areas in downtown, this
- 11 shouldn't be in the downtown section targeting
- 12 tech sensitive businesses.
- 13 MS. SMODILLA: I could even look at the grocery
- 14 store in Gorski Plaza as being an opportunity for
- 15 that that can easily be subdivided.
- 16 MR. PERRI: The owner of that grocery store is
- 17 not going to do anything with that building
- 18 because it's going to cost over \$250,000 to
- 19 rehabilitate it. Nobody is going to spend
- 20 \$250,000 to rehabilitate an old building when
- 21 they can go somewhere else in a new building and
- 22 not spend \$250,000.
- 23 MR. KRALL: I think when you look at the short
- 24 list, I think it's doing exactly what it's

- supposed to do, a marketing vehicle that somebody 1
- will get and they will open up the dialogue of
- what to do with whatever buildings and resources
- that this has, so I think this is doing it.
- you become too specific, it narrows it down.
- you were to say you have a 45,000 square-foot
- empty, vacant 22-foot ceiling grocery store, it
- gives them the objectivity to say they can use it
- or not, and our Bartlett has a train station, so
- it opens up the dialogue to see what can be done. 10
- Quite frankly, if we wanted to, 11 MS. WEIR:
- what we could do is, if we wanted to target tech 12
- sensitive businesses, we could provide them with 13
- 14 different options. We could provide those target
- 15 people that we find, we can provide them
- different areas for them that are going to be 16
- more comfortable for them to work within. 17 There
- might be somebody who wants the old insurance
- 19 house, you know, because they might like the
- 20 quaintness of doing something like that because
- of the nature of what they're doing; or there
- 22 might be somebody who wants something as big as
- 23 something you can get out in Brewster Creek; and,
- you know, depending on how we target it, it could

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- 1 be laid out for any type of tech business. You
- 2 know, Bartlett isn't that big, so if we have some
- 3 tech businesses that are in Brewster Creek and
- 4 some tech businesses that are in downtown
- 5 Bartlett, I don't think that that would be a bad
- 6 thing. You know, just kind of throwing different
- 7 ideas out there.
- 8 I agree, I think that the grocery store is
- 9 a tough nut, it's a tough nut to crack, but I
- think that we have some other, you know, perhaps
- 11 opportunities that are vacant. You know, we've
- 12 got the building behind the Mexican restaurant.
- 13 That might be a good fit for a smaller, you know,
- 14 more people who are maybe building, you know, who
- 15 are creating something, you know, creating a
- 16 product. Computers are small these days, I hear,
- 17 so maybe you don't need as much room. You know,
- 18 again, just kind of throwing different ideas out
- 19 there; and if we wanted to go with the incubator
- 20 project, you know, talk to different financial
- 21 institutions and say, hey, I'd be willing to give
- 22 \$10,000 to -- you know, do a loan for \$10,000 to
- 23 smaller companies or maybe, you know, something
- 24 six figures for somebody going out into Brewster

- 1 Creek.
- 2 MR. METHA: I'm curious why we are mentioning
- 3 target tech sensitive business and not mention
- 4 anything else?
- 5 MS. WEIR: That came up in the Spartan plan.
- 6 MR. METHA: Do you think this city of
- 7 Bartlett, village, that the downtown area is
- 8 suitable and preferable for any people who are in
- 9 the tech industry? Like I need Starbucks coffee
- 10 all the time when I'm working on my desk as a
- 11 tech person, for example. Do you think that guy
- wants to do tech work, computer work, software
- work, that type of people who work in this
- 14 environment, even if they have a space as -- I
- 15 feel tech sensitive is not the right industry
- 16 which be attracted in the Village of Bartlett.
- 17 This is not a good city downtown because it has
- 18 its own value. It has it's own -- now, let us
- 19 think about what are the type of people who would
- 20 be attracted. I don't think any of the tech
- 21 guys, even if they had a space, would be
- 22 attracted to come in this area.
- MR. PERRI: I agree a hundred percent.
- 24 MR. METHA: I'm curious why is only target

- 1 tech sensitive business? That makes me feel that
- 2 nothing else we should be focusing on this.
- 3 MS. WEIR: Sometimes niches build themselves.
- 4 Like when you look at Brewster Creek, all of a
- 5 sudden now we have a lot of food places out
- 6 there. It didn't target that to begin with. It
- 7 grew into that. I think it's one of those once
- 8 one person got out there, maybe another company
- 9 saw, oh, well, you got Greco out there, so how
- 10 convenient would it be now I've got Fresh Produce
- 11 and now I've got Rana Pasta out there. That
- 12 wasn't a target, quite frankly. I think it
- 13 naturally grew into its own little niche.
- 14 MR. METHA: But infrastructure was very
- 15 suitable to that type of industry. What I'm
- 16 saying is the infrastructure --
- 17 MS. WEIR: We didn't know that when we started
- 18 it.
- 19 MR. PERRI: No, but the land and the buildings
- 20 going up there that could attract tech businesses.
- 21 We don't have the land or the buildings in the
- 22 downtown area to attract that kind of business.
- MS. SCHUMACHER: What do you think would be
- 24 attractive? What type of business would be

- 1 attractive to downtown?
- MR. METHA: That's a very good question. Once
- 3 again, I think we should be marketing about our
- 4 strength. Let the people in general may catch
- 5 that because as you said, we didn't knew food
- 6 industry would love that area and start coming
- 7 in, so what we should be concentrating and
- 8 focusing our strength and sell that market, rather
- 9 than just going to XYZ and talk to about -- maybe
- 10 we are talking to a tech guy and he has nothing
- 11 to do with this town and he was just wasting our
- 12 time.
- MS. SCHUMACHER: I just want to say that this
- 14 demographic information that Tony included does
- 15 speak to a lot of that in terms of the businesses
- 16 looking to locate, you know -- Tony, you could
- 17 probably speak better to this about how they use
- 18 this information on population, age, and income
- 19 and they have very specific requirements for, you
- 20 know, the type of person they want around them.
- 21 MR. FRADIN: I can speak about that. If I
- 22 meet with ten different businesses, they may have
- 23 ten different criteria. First, I want to make
- 24 sure everybody understands that. Some of them

- 1 will look at age, income, employment levels. A
- 2 lot of them look at density. A lot of the retail
- 3 and restaurant type businesses, the main thing
- 4 they're looking for -- I'm not going to say the
- 5 main thing. One of the main things they're
- 6 looking for is daytime population, so I think I
- 7 heard that phrase used by Tracy or one of the
- 8 commissioners, you know, targeting types of
- 9 businesses that will increase the population of
- 10 the downtown area, so I can definitely speak to
- 11 that, but I can't say that it's any one thing.
- 12 I've heard businesses say our demographics
- 13 are too high. I've heard them say that it's too
- 14 low. I've heard them say there is not enough
- 15 people in the downtown many, many times and it
- 16 becomes a chicken or egg routine as well. You
- 17 need the people to attract the businesses. You
- 18 need the businesses to attract the people, so the
- 19 demographics are -- they vary greatly from site
- 20 to site even within the Village, and the downtown
- 21 area, the housing density is higher than it is
- 22 out on Stearns and 59. Out on Stearns Road or
- 23 Route 59, the traffic counts are much higher.
- 24 It's closer to the business park, easier to get

- 1 to during a workday for somebody who works out
- 2 there, so the demographics we included that
- 3 partially to display the different demographic
- 4 areas.
- 5 You go, you know, a few plans further, you
- 6 look at Schick and 59, the incomes are much
- 7 higher, but the density is much lower, for
- 8 instance, so we included those to show -- to help
- 9 show what types of businesses may be attracted to
- 10 the downtown, and we're hearing that you're not
- 11 all agreeing with tech sensitive businesses. A
- 12 lot of the inquiries that we get are for, we're
- 13 going to call it, for cafes and restaurants and
- 14 bars, people considering mixed-use developments,
- 15 that might be something we can add, a mix of more
- 16 residents, as well as business, but that's why we
- 17 brought this plan to you tonight to also get some
- 18 of your thoughts on that and we're all hearing
- 19 your comments about tech sensitive businesses for
- 20 the downtown.
- 21 MR. PERRI: I would like to go back to what my
- 22 fellow commissioner started to say about strengths
- 23 and weaknesses. I think it's a good point. If
- 24 we look at what our goals are for the downtown

- 1 area, we haven't completed very many of the goals
- 2 that we recommended; and our strengths will be
- 3 when we complete everything that we thought we
- 4 should do, supporting the community events that
- 5 bring people downtown, work with steering
- 6 committees to develop the RTA. I mean, those are
- 7 critical. Those are weaknesses right now that we
- 8 have. We have to build them up into strengths.
- 9 When we have done strengths, then we can
- 10 talk about businesses that come into our area
- 11 because it's going to be more attractive that we
- 12 have these things going on and we had the RTA
- 13 fixed with the people not complaining that they
- 14 can't get through the downtown area. We have
- 15 many negatives in the downtown area that have to
- 16 be fixed. They have to be -- these are
- 17 weaknesses that could be strengths, but until
- 18 this is done, we have no strengths downtown.
- 19 MS. SMODILLA: Well, Commissioner Perri, I
- 20 want to just let you know that the steering
- 21 committee is just beginning to convene and work
- 22 on the transportation oriented district, so that
- 23 is a very, very new initiative, and one of the --
- 24 one of the goals that the consultancy has been

- 1 charged with is to actually do a survey of the
- 2 habits of the people in the downtown area and
- 3 what the overall mobility is, so I think we're
- 4 working on that.
- I do agree that the issue of the platform
- 6 continues to be a problem, but I think that's
- qoing to be addressed; and, also, I would say
- 8 that the efforts that are being put forth by the
- 9 various community groups to attract people to the
- 10 downtown area have been superlative over the last
- 11 couple of years, so I think that they're onboard
- 12 with that, but again, those are -- you know, one
- is an ongoing project to strengthen the viability
- 14 of downtown. Certainly, the community events
- 15 those are ongoing. I think they're only going to
- 16 continue to become more robust.
- 17 Again, these are just based on my
- 18 observations, but I think that would be echoed by
- 19 many in the community, but, again, I think we do
- 20 need to go back to how do we effectively address
- 21 the issue of viable businesses within the
- downtown; and when we've got the restaurant
- 23 community that is -- is fragile, again, I think
- 24 we should be looking at attracting companies that

- 1 are going to have a little bit of a longer shelf
- 2 life and would actually, you know, bring a new
- 3 brand of innovation into the downtown Bartlett
- 4 area the same way that the food industry has
- 5 really revolutionized Brewster Creek.
- 6 MR. PERRI: I think we understand that all
- 7 this stuff is being worked on. Being worked on
- 8 and getting to the point where we can brag about
- 9 things that are going on in the downtown area is
- 10 far removed. Until we get to that point, we have
- 11 no strengths. We have to get these things done
- 12 so we have something viable that we can talk to
- 13 businesses about that we have in the downtown
- 14 area and right now we don't. We have things that
- 15 we're working on.
- MR. PLONCZYNSKI: I would suggest that we
- 17 don't have to limit the discussion to the tech
- 18 centers. There is other options that we can
- 19 explore, but I will go and say that we do have a
- 20 tech business in the downtown and I think that
- 21 the Spartan group kind of picked up on that. We
- 22 have a guy who cleans, works on, and repairs your
- 23 computers and does -- he'll program your computer
- 24 and he's kind of hidden. He's underneath the

- 1 chiropractor, but he's a viable business in the
- 2 downtown and, you know, I think the Spartan group
- 3 kind of picked up on that, but I wouldn't say
- 4 that -- I wouldn't throw it out as an option,
- 5 but, you know, there is probably some expansion
- for some of the uses that -- you know, the
- 7 service industry in the downtown is viable, and
- 8 the restaurant business is -- we just, you know,
- 9 we just saw the opening -- reopening of an old
- 10 established place; and from my experience and a
- 11 couple of people that have gone there, it's new
- 12 and improved and it's kind of attracting -- you
- 13 know, you go in there and it's a young kind of
- 14 yuppie crowd, you know, if that's the correct
- 15 term to use, but they got all these fancy little
- 16 dishes and everything and it was good, so I think
- 17 it's going to be broad-based. I think your
- 18 comments on these are all well taken and we'll
- 19 come back and redraft it and we can move on to
- 20 the next session because you're going to have
- 21 comments about every one of them and we'll move
- 22 that way.
- 23 MR. PERRI: Let's do it.
- 24 MS. SCHUMACHER: The next section is the

- 1 Route 59 corridor. An addition here is the
- 2 efforts of DCEO and Choose DuPage, as well as the
- 3 Dominick's site, more specifically, and some of
- 4 the vacant areas.
- 5 Thoughts on 59?
- 6 MS. SMODILLA: I just have a question. I
- quess this would be for any of you. Are there
- 8 separate marketing budgets for the Route 59
- 9 corridor and downtown area and then a separate
- 10 one for the industrial business districts?
- 11 MR. FRADIN: The Brewster Creek Business Park
- 12 has its own marketing budget, that's a TIF
- 13 district, and every year we put together a TIF
- 14 budget for all three of our TIF districts, but
- 15 the rest of the village is marketed collectively.
- 16 There is another TIF district at
- 17 West Bartlett Road and Route 25, the Bluff City
- 18 TIF. However, that has not generated any
- 19 increment and there is no marketing budget for
- 20 that particular district at this time, so the
- 21 others are marketed altogether from the overall
- 22 village marketing budget.
- MS. SMODILLA: Okay. Thank you.
- MS. WEIR: I would say the one goal of

- 1 maintain a database of available commercial sites
- 2 and owner/broker information is probably
- 3 applicable to all of -- I mean, we would have
- 4 that for the downtown area, we would have it for
- 5 Brewster Creek, so if we're going to have it for
- 6 59, it would be applicable to all of them
- 7 probably, as well as the -- you know, because
- 8 actually maintaining the database of available
- 9 and continue to market the site to attract is
- 10 almost the same -- the two go hand in hand and
- 11 would probably go with every grouping.
- 12 MS. SMODILLA: What is the ICSC?
- 13 MR. FRADIN: International Council of Shopping
- 14 Centers. The name is just slightly misleading
- 15 because it's also comprised of representatives of
- 16 nearly any regional or national retail entity.
- 17 They have two major trade shows per year in the
- 18 Chicago market and there will be one next month
- 19 at Navy Pier we will be participating in.
- 20 MR. METHA: What is in there that is missing
- 21 for any -- because last minute I was going
- 22 through and I think you mention it and I don't
- 23 know who mention that number one requirement
- 24 right now people are -- the resident of Bartlett

- 1 is looking for a grocery store, so while in this
- 2 corridor, in this particular, what is it from
- 3 this demographic that you had mentioned in detail
- 4 one single thing that is missing which would not
- 5 attract any of the grocery store because we have
- 6 tried with practically with all, but I understand
- 7 from all the comments that you provided in last
- 8 several meetings, you have been having meetings
- 9 with all different type of grocers because
- 10 speaking of the Dominick's site, that's why this
- 11 came up, so what is that one thing that is not --
- 12 because the numbers are attractive from an
- individual point of view. Why anybody would not
- 14 be interested to come in I was just wondering.
- 15 MS. WEIR: I think if they look at the
- 16 Dominick's numbers, I think that's what throws
- 17 everybody off. It was a low producing store and
- 18 it's big.
- MR. PERRI: They want more money than the
- 20 store was making in sales, so somebody looks at
- 21 that and they say they want so much money for it
- 22 and there are only this much in sales, don't make
- 23 sense, so it's the owners of the property. It's
- 24 not the village. It's not anybody else. They

- 1 have to get within market, what the market is
- 2 saying they should get for the property, but
- 3 until they come to realize that --
- 4 MR. MEHTA: Maybe that -- it's Dominick's
- 5 site. I'm talking any other location in village
- 6 why any grocery would not come. Forget about
- 7 that particular Dominick's site, maybe, as you
- 8 say, the owner, maybe village. In that case, I'm
- 9 just wondering because revenue of this city is
- 10 ultimately important and grocery store play a
- 11 probably better role; and also this is a
- 12 requirement, which I also listen from many of the
- 13 people I'm in touch with. I mean, people are
- 14 really looking forward to have a grocery store in
- 15 this area, so I was just wondering what is that
- 16 we are missing from a grocery store's point of
- 17 view because you speak to them -- is it because
- 18 they have already many other grocery stores in
- 19 the surrounding areas and they don't want any
- 20 more?
- 21 MR. FRADIN: That's one of the main reasons.
- 22 It's a huge competitive market. There is no one
- 23 answer, I want to make that clear. If you take
- 24 an example of, for instance, Whole Foods, right

- or wrong, whether you agree with them or not,
- 2 they would judge that the village demographics
- 3 are not high enough income and education level
- 4 and income and density to meet their particular
- 5 requirements. If you go to the opposite end of
- 6 the spectrum like a Food4Less or Save-a-Lot, both
- 7 told me that Bartlett's demographics are
- 8 typically too high for the type of customer that
- 9 they're targeting.
- The empty Dominick's is really almost a
- 11 subject unto itself. I could characterize it
- 12 instead of telling you what all the 25 different
- 13 grocers that I spoke to what they said, but I
- 14 would characterize it as a lack of density or any
- 15 residential development on the west side of our
- 16 village, none. They would say that it's all very
- 17 lovely, but it's forest preserves instead of
- 18 customers. They would also cite the competition
- 19 nearby. A great example of that is Caputo's,
- 20 which is a very popular grocery store, but only
- 21 a few miles away from our vacant sites and they
- 22 get --
- 23 MR. PERRI: Jewel --
- 24 MR. FRADIN: -- many, many, many Bartlett

- 1 shoppers already who will drive 10, 15 minutes to
- 2 go there.
- 3 MS. SMODILLA: Have they taken traffic counts
- 4 into consideration?
- 5 MR. FRADIN: Absolutely. Every single one of
- 6 them knows what the traffic counts are, so like I
- 7 said, I can't really characterize it and say here
- 8 is the reason why a grocer won't come there, but
- 9 one more thing I do want to add is that Safeway
- 10 has a valid lease at a very high rate through
- 11 February of 2019. They pay it automatically on
- 12 the first of every month. There is a large note,
- 13 a loan, against that shopping center and anybody
- 14 who's looked at the vacant Dominick's -- now, I'm
- just speaking about the Dominick's, rather than
- 16 other potential sites, they would not want to pay
- 17 as much as Dominick's pays on their lease; and
- 18 also you mention Mariano's, they're basically the
- only one that takes an entire 65,000 square-foot
- 20 space.
- 21 I've spoken to maybe four, five different
- 22 grocers with fresh in the name, Fresh Thyme,
- 23 Garden Fresh Market, the Fresh Market, I can't
- 24 recall all of them, but all five of them were

- 1 considerably smaller than a 65,000 square feet
- 2 and each one of them estimated a cost of -- on
- 3 the low end I heard two and a half million and on
- 4 the high end I heard five million to divide and
- 5 rebuild the Dominick's the way they wanted to.
- 6 It's a 65,000 square-foot space, so just doing
- 7 the math, \$50 a square foot would be \$3 million
- 8 to divide it, so I can only speak mostly to the
- 9 Dominick's site because that's the one I called
- 10 and met with and emailed to all the grocers
- 11 recently, but I would say it's a combination of
- 12 lack of high density, neighborhoods in the area,
- as well as not wanting to compete with nearby
- 14 grocers, and in many cases themselves.
- 15 A lot of them that I called didn't have
- 16 any distribution networks. Some of them didn't
- 17 have any this far south and some of them didn't
- 18 have any this far north; and I called a few
- 19 grocers based out of the Rockford area and west
- 20 that had no interest in expanding into this
- 21 market. So it's a long answer, but it was
- 22 different answers. All these would not give you
- 23 the same answer that Trader Joe's would. They
- 24 wouldn't give you the same answer that Ultra

- 1 Foods would, Caputo's, Tony's. I've spoken with
- 2 all of them.
- 3 MS. WEIR: Just curious out of the ten, the
- 4 ten locations and ten calls, or whatever, that
- 5 program, how much of them are left?
- 6 MR. FRADIN: Ten. The interest -- another
- 7 thing I should probably add is that the parent
- 8 company of Safeway is Albertsons. Albertsons is
- 9 the parent company of Jewel, and they will not
- 10 sublet their lease to another grocer in any of
- 11 their empty Dominick's and that's a new issue
- 12 that has come up earlier this year. It wasn't an
- 13 issue last year.
- If you Google search the deal, like I did
- 15 after I heard that, Albertsons closed on Safeway
- 16 earlier this year. We had one interested party
- in opening a grocery store in the former
- 18 Dominick's. It's not a grocer that I could name
- 19 because it doesn't exist. It was somebody who
- 20 would want to open two locations and be a new
- 21 grocer and they were not able -- they were not
- 22 allowed to enter into a sublet or a sublease of
- 23 that space and that's an important consideration.
- 24 When I questioned that and I asked well,

- 1 how did all these jewels buy them, how did all
- 2 the Mariano's buy them, what they did is they
- 3 bought out the lease, so in many of those
- 4 instances, they paid \$3 million. You could term
- 5 it even just good will because it was buying out
- 6 the lease, so it's a long story, but there is a
- 7 lot of issues that our vacant Dominick's is
- 8 facing at this time.
- 9 MR. PERRI: But they will sublet to another
- 10 type business?
- 11 MR. FRADIN: Yes. I can generally characterize
- 12 the ones that have looked of late, meaning maybe
- 13 the last three to four months, as health related,
- 14 health/medical related.
- 15 MR. PERRI: That's a big thing nowadays.
- 16 MR. FRADIN: Indeed it is.
- 17 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: Tony, what's our primary
- 18 purpose tonight in reviewing this marketing plan?
- 19 MR. FRADIN: Well, I would turn it over to
- 20 Paula, but I think we would agree to get more of
- 21 your ideas, some bullet points, see what you like
- 22 and what you don't like about it.
- 23 MS. SCHUMACHER: We did have no expectation of
- 24 getting through it tonight.

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- 1 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: Are we looking at it just
- 2 as an overview or are we supposed to be getting
- 3 this deep into details on every parcel of land
- 4 available --
- 5 MS. SCHUMACHER: It is helpful to get -- since
- 6 you want specifics in the plan, it's really
- 7 helpful to hear some of those specifics from you.
- 8 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: Are we here to accept it,
- 9 revise it, or what's our primary purpose tonight
- 10 in reviewing this plan?
- 11 MS. SCHUMACHER: Revising. You know --
- 12 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: The discussion is starting
- 13 to go off in multiple directions--
- 14 MS. SCHUMACHER: This is really to get -- you
- 15 know, here was our jumping off point.
- 16 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: I think the feedback that
- 17 we're getting is good for us to go back, revise
- 18 it, and we'll bring it back to you; and as Paula
- 19 said earlier, we want to get some feedback from
- 20 the residents and get ideas to flush this out a
- 21 little more and, you know, if there is
- 22 something -- I mean, we even want you to comment
- 23 do you like the demographics in it, do you like
- 24 the maps in it, those kind of things.

- 1 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: The way I'm looking at it,
- 2 we've got multiple locations here, and I don't
- 3 think we can cover them all in one night. I
- 4 mean, if we can continue to go through these
- 5 locations and spend as much time as we just spent
- on the downtown area, we'll be ordering pizzas at
- 7 midnight.
- 8 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: If you want to stop at any
- 9 particular time --
- 10 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: Perhaps we should do like
- 11 one a meeting.
- 12 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: No. We don't have to do it
- 13 all tonight, no. Wherever you want a stopping
- 14 off point, from my way of thinking, I got two
- 15 more night meetings this week, I could stop right
- 16 now.
- 17 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: I think we covered
- 18 downtown. Maybe the next meeting we should cover
- 19 Stearns Road.
- 20 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: We're kind of on the 59 area.
- 21 Do you want to continue or stop now?
- MS. WEIR: I think we should cover more than
- 23 one per meeting, otherwise we won't finish until
- 24 sometime next year.

- 1 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: That's the other thing is
- 2 that you don't want to -- there is two more Route
- 3 59 sections that are --
- 4 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: I think just saying we're
- 5 going to cover location X, Y, or Z, we need more
- 6 specific guidelines on exactly what we're going
- 7 to be discussing and not just launch into a
- 8 general conversation about -- about everything.
- 9 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: What we've been hearing has
- 10 been helpful to us, you know. Do you want to --
- do you want us to come back and say here's the
- 12 area --
- 13 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: I don't know. We started
- 14 talking about the downtown location and it
- 15 started going in every which direction.
- MS. WEIR: We're on 59.
- 17 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: You want to do 59 corridor?
- 18 MS. WEIR: That's what we're on.
- 19 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: I thought we moved down to
- 20 the first 59 corridor and we got into talking
- 21 about the Dominick's. We can move on to the
- 22 second 59 corridor.
- 23 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: Okay. Let's do the 59
- 24 corridor next then.

- 1 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: I don't know if there is any
- 2 more to say about the Dominick's area, but --
- 3 MS. WEIR: I think you have to include, you
- 4 know, that we're going to market the Dominick's
- 5 site. Knowing the obstacles that we have --
- 6 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: We're going to continue to
- 7 do that, you know, and --
- 8 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: Have there been any
- 9 inquiries at all about the Dominick's site?
- 10 MR. FRADIN: I'm sorry?
- 11 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Tony has gotten some, the
- 12 health industry, but he's explained all the
- 13 hurdles that Dominick's has put in, but there are
- 14 still -- there's still interest in that location,
- but when they get to the point where it's going
- 16 to be -- if you go out there now, you see a sign
- 17 up on there from, I think, it's Jones Lang LaSalle
- and there's a person's name and number; and we
- 19 talked about this, that if you look at that big
- 20 sign out there, it looks like their ability to
- 21 subdivide that is probably the direction they're
- 22 going to go, but until they get enough to
- 23 subdivide that in three tenants that are going
- 24 to -- if it's going to be subdivided in three --

- 1 we were guessing it could be two or three --
- 2 they're not going to relinquish the lease that
- 3 they have.
- 4 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: I was just curious if we
- 5 were getting any calls at all about it.
- 6 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: From those non-grocery store
- 7 businesses that are interested in it. Tony talks
- 8 to the broker and the owner of the property all
- 9 the time, you know, so they don't want it to sit
- 10 that way, but at the same time they're unwilling
- 11 to do anything because they're getting money
- 12 every month from 65,000 square feet. I wouldn't
- 13 want to do it either. Somebody is paying you to
- 14 rent their space, even though they're not in it,
- 15 until you get a better deal, you're not going to
- 16 do it. I mean, that's the reality of it. That
- 17 would go for a grocery store or industrial
- 18 building or anything.
- 19 MR. PERRI: It seems to me there is not going
- 20 to be another grocery store in that area. Might
- 21 be a good idea to try and market a tech center.
- MR. PLONCZYNSKI: That would be a good location
- 23 for it if you had --
- MR. PERRI: Great location, plus the space is

- 1 there.
- MR. PLONCZYNSKI: There is other Route 59
- 3 locations that you could maybe attract another
- 4 grocery store to that haven't even developed yet
- 5 that are sitting vacant today. You know, we've
- 6 got potential up and down 59, so that's why it's
- 7 segmented in different locations.
- 8 MR. PERRI: That might be an idea. I mean, up
- 9 and down 59 you could market that as a tech
- 10 center possibility.
- 11 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: One of the things that's
- 12 going to help Route 59 is the state is going to
- do improvements at three of the four
- 14 intersections that are in our town. Starting
- with 20 and 59, that's going to be first. 59 and
- 16 Stearns, the final plans are being -- we've
- 17 reviewed them and they're going to move into the
- 18 next, you know, the -- where they let the
- 19 project, which is next spring, and construction
- 20 starting on that one in 2016, hopefully, and
- 21 they're analyzing, reanalyzing West Bartlett Road
- 22 and 59 at our Mayor's request.
- The Mayor didn't like what IDOT was
- 24 proposing for what I call the short fix to that

- 1 intersection; and he, you know, kind of went to
- 2 bat for that intersection as the potential it has
- on the northwest corner; and with his influence
- 4 and discussing it with some of the IDOT officials,
- 5 they're reevaluating that whole intersection to
- 6 upgrade the improvement. It's going to take a
- 7 little longer, but it's going to be more of a
- 8 full improvement as we see on 59 and Stearns and
- 9 then they're asking for our input on 59 and
- 10 Army Trail Road, so you're going to have a lot of
- improvements to the 59 corridor that can help the
- 12 vacant sites that we have in the community for
- 13 commercial users and even residential and office
- 14 uses.
- 15 MS. WEIR: So maybe we -- as we look at our
- 16 goals and deciding when those changes are going
- 17 to be made, those types of changes have a serious
- impact on those businesses while those changes
- 19 are in place, so maybe in those goals we need to
- 20 address how we're going to help those businesses
- 21 during that time of construction.
- MR. PLONCZYNSKI: That's a good point.
- 23 MS. WEIR: Particularly I hope we're not doing
- 24 all three intersections at the same time, but,

- 1 you know, include --
- 2 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Hopefully not.
- 3 MS. WEIR: -- how we're going to help them
- 4 during construction because, you know, you see so
- 5 many different roads, North Avenue, the
- 6 businesses are gone because the construction went
- 7 on for so long, so maybe identify how long the
- 8 construction is going to take. If we're talking
- 9 being six months, come up with a plan for that,
- 10 but if it's going to take them two years, we're
- 11 definitely going to need to step in and help in
- 12 some way.
- 13 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: That's a very good point,
- and the intersection improvements will be,
- 15 depending on the size and the severity of them,
- 16 will be at various degrees, but those are things
- 17 that we can certainly incorporate into this.
- 18 MS. WEIR: And then also market the
- 19 improvements for prospects, you know, quoting the
- 20 improved intersection and the improved access to
- 21 their location so for future businesses that
- 22 would be a plus.
- MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Yeah. There are some
- 24 business owners that we've had disagreements on

- 1 that, believe it or not, but I think in the long
- run, 59 and Stearns, that intersection, will be
- 3 improved to the benefit of all the businesses
- 4 there, even though they don't see it quite yet.
- 5 MR. PERRI: I seen that they stopped taking
- 6 the topsoil from West Bartlett Road and 59. Have
- 7 there been any inquiries on that property?
- 8 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Yes, there is -- Tony has
- 9 many contacts in the commercial real estate world
- 10 and developers and he has put them in touch with
- 11 the property owners; and at this stage, it's just
- 12 discussions, but there are at least two different
- 13 development groups that are interested in that
- 14 corner and that will develop because it's a
- 15 really big piece of property. It will be a
- 16 mixed-use development with primarily commercial
- on the corner and different types of housing as
- 18 you go further west, and they also own north
- 19 along Naperville Road, so I think when it's all
- 20 said and done, they own over 125, 126 acres, so
- 21 it won't -- and it won't all be developed at once
- 22 obviously either, but they're kind of hoping for
- 23 this intersection improvement too. That will
- 24 spur a lot of interest in that corner.

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- 1 MR. PERRI: That's good to hear.
- MR. PLONCZYNSKI: So that takes care of 59.
- 3 MR. PERRI: It does. You want to stop now and
- 4 then come back with the industrial stuff later.
- 5 I'm all in favor of that.
- 6 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: Okay. With that said,
- 7 then we can move on to the next agenda item.
- 8 MR. KRALL: Actually, I do have two quick
- 9 things to say about so far.
- 10 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: I was being facetious,
- 11 Barry.
- MR. KRALL: Okay. I do like the five-minute
- 13 demographics when you look at the retailing
- 14 because that is a new concept for redevelopment.
- MR. FRADIN: You mean the drive time radius
- 16 rather than the mileage?
- 17 MR. KRALL: Yes. As we continue to go through
- 18 this, if we could spell out all the acronyms for
- 19 us who are not used to seeing those things, that
- 20 would be great.
- 21 MR. FRADIN: Thank you. Our lives are -- we
- 22 have so many acronyms with everything we do.
- 23 You're right. Thank you.
- 24 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: Do we want to discuss any

- 1 new business, Tony?
- 2 MR. FRADIN: I do quickly, and Jim had
- 3 mentioned one, and I'm sure all six of you know
- 4 already that Platform 18 opened recently. They
- 5 had their ribbon cutting this past Saturday
- 6 during Heritage Days. They've opened with a
- 7 boom, so to speak. Lot of marketing, social
- 8 media. They've been swamped and I only mentioned
- 9 that because we sat here at our last two or three
- 10 meetings telling you something was coming soon
- 11 and they had a lot of -- put a lot of work into
- 12 it. They have a new team in place, although Gary
- 13 Danno is still one of the principal owners and
- 14 he's been involved with the previous entities of
- 15 the restaurants that have been there previously,
- 16 but they have new chefs, new menu, new concept,
- 17 and we hope that it's there and does very well
- 18 for many years; and, of course, that goes back to
- 19 something we were talking about earlier, you know,
- 20 what types of businesses have been attracted to
- 21 the downtown in the past few years. There have
- 22 been quite a few eating and drinking
- 23 establishments that have opened in the past two
- 24 years or so.

- 1 The other one I wanted to mention, a new
- 2 business, is called Westgate Smiles. It's over
- 3 there, as the name suggests, in Westgate Commons,
- 4 836 West Bartlett Road. It's in the upstairs
- 5 portion of the building that faces right there on
- 6 West Bartlett Road and just opened up recently.
- 7 Those are the two newest businesses in the town.
- 8 There is two things that I left up for you
- 9 at your seats and Commissioner Smodilla mentioned
- 10 one of them. I had gone to a Choose DuPage
- 11 quarterly meeting of economic development
- 12 professionals recently at a tech center in
- 13 Naperville. It's called REV3. It's open to
- 14 people throughout DuPage County. It's not for
- 15 Naperville people only. It's another one of
- 16 those things to have to be able to refer
- 17 potential entrepreneurs and startups to if
- 18 they're not able to find low cost space here in
- 19 town, but it's something that some of our
- 20 residents may be interested in and we can share
- 21 information as we get it. It was an interesting
- 22 place to tour, but I do want to point out that
- 23 they do get free rent and they've had -- it's in
- 24 a portion of a building that's owned by Northern

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- 1 Illinois University, so that's their incentive
- 2 for going to that location, besides being a good
- 3 location on its own on Diehl Road in Naperville,
- 4 they also do not pay rent.
- 5 The other thing that I left up there at
- 6 your seats was a flyer that I received at a
- 7 tourism event. You may have heard how the newest
- 8 director of tourism for the State of Illinois
- 9 went on a road show about a month ago. They did
- 10 a presentation at an art space in downtown Elgin
- 11 and I attended that. They handed out some
- 12 details and some statistics on what tourism means
- 13 for the state of Illinois. We don't get into
- 14 tourism a lot when we talk about it at the EDC,
- 15 but this past weekend was one of the biggest
- 16 tourism weekends of the year for Bartlett. I saw
- 17 Paula and we both attended Heritage Days on
- 18 Saturday and the downtown was swamped, and I
- 19 would hope that it wasn't all, of course, mostly
- 20 Bartlett residents, but there were quite a few
- 21 people coming to visit from out of town. We did
- 22 cable TV ads.
- 23 MR. MEHTA: He did visit the BAPS too.
- MR. FRADIN: I spoke with your colleagues at

- 1 BAPS. They had --
- 2 MR. MEHTA: He had about one and-a-half hour
- 3 visit to BAPS.
- 4 MR. FRADIN: And there was a lot of people
- 5 there.
- 6 MR. METHA: Again, focusing on how we can help
- 7 to increase the tourism in DuPage County and that
- 8 was his whole idea of visiting the place, yeah,
- 9 so he was there.
- 10 MR. FRADIN: Yeah. We've known -- our staff
- 11 has known Aneil Baroque (phonetic) there for many
- 12 years, and he's always told us that BAPS is one
- of the largest, if not the largest, tourism
- 14 attractions for the village. He once told me
- over 200,000 visitors per year, and I did pay a
- 16 visit to the BAPS booth on Bartlett Avenue.
- 17 There were a lot of people there. They had a
- 18 model.
- 19 MR. METHA: They had a booth for one day.
- 20 Bartlett Heritage and probably over 120 people
- 21 did visit the booth, yeah.
- 22 MR. FRADIN: I spoke with a lot of businesses
- 23 on Saturday. They were very pleased with the
- 24 turnout. Cecilia is not present tonight, but I'm

- 1 sure she can give us a report and some of the
- 2 details. They do their best to track how many
- 3 visitors they get. There were more events, I
- 4 think, this year than in the previous five years.
- 5 I witnessed cannons being shot in Bartlett Park,
- 6 so there was a Civil War reenactment.
- 7 I could go on and on, but it was a big
- 8 weekend for downtown Bartlett, and I attended a
- 9 tourism event and you can see -- you can go to
- 10 their website, but they will give you details of
- 11 what tourism means in economic development. We
- don't have the hotels and this isn't the type of
- 13 thing somebody might stay overnight to go to
- 14 Heritage Days, but it means more customers at the
- 15 local businesses, people eating meals in downtown
- 16 Bartlett, people shopping. The owner of
- 17 D'Licious told me that he met many new customers
- 18 over the weekend who didn't realize he was there
- 19 for whatever reason.
- 20 So the tourism is a major component of
- 21 economic development and I just wanted to share
- 22 the details with you because Illinois's numbers
- 23 for tourism are huge and a lot more than I thought
- 24 they would be. I don't have the statistics in

- 1 front of me, but it's billions of dollars worth
- 2 of revenues and it's something to keep in mind.
- 3 That's all the new business I have.
- 4 MS. SMODILLA: It was wonderful to see Heritage
- 5 Days being advertised on cable television.
- 6 Who managed the media placement this year?
- 7 MR. FRADIN: I worked on that. I'm glad you
- 8 saw it. What we did was we purchased two weeks
- 9 worth of ads. I can tell you what the cost of it
- 10 was. It was \$2502 for that -- to have the ads on
- 11 cable TV. It was about 850 times they were going
- 12 to show it. The production of the ad was \$300,
- 13 so it was \$2802 to show the 30-second Heritage
- 14 Days ad approximately 850 times; and the exciting
- 15 part of it for us as a staff was it was on all
- 16 the major channels, ESPN, Fox News, CNN, Food
- 17 Network, Golf Channel, pretty much all the
- 18 channels; and so this was, Cecilia said it a few
- 19 weeks ago about our marketing, kind of a new big
- 20 idea; and we haven't really ventured into cable
- 21 TV advertising because it's kind of a short
- 22 duration promotion, but I should mention that
- 23 we're contemplating, and I believe we're going to
- 24 work on, an ad specifically promoting eating and

- drinking establishments in the village, a similar
- 2 ad in terms of scope and duration of it. Like I
- 3 said, it's fairly expensive, so it was \$2500 just
- 4 to do it for two weeks.
- 5 MS. SMODILLA: I think there was a pretty big
- 6 bang for the buck for that particularly since
- your placement was on some pretty popular cable
- 8 stations.
- 9 Now, did the Village fund that in its
- 10 entirety or was there a shared costing by the
- 11 businesses?
- MR. FRADIN: No, that was completely funded by
- 13 the Village. We didn't go to any -- that was a
- 14 Heritage Days ad, so we didn't ask the Heritage
- 15 Days group to contribute to that, that was just
- 16 from the Village.
- MS. SMODILLA: Was that exclusively on Comcast?
- 18 MR. FRADIN: It was actually also on AT&T
- 19 U-verse, and it was also on -- in addition to
- 20 being on cable television, it was on people's
- 21 landing pages for their AT&T and their Comcast
- 22 accounts. Bartlett is considered within the
- 23 greater Schaumburg cable area, so the ad showed
- 24 in my home in Hoffman Estates, it showed in

- Schaumburg, it showed throughout Streamwood, 1
- parts of Hanover Park, and Bartlett. I can't
- recall if -- Elgin has its own cable area.
- MS. SMODILLA: Well, that's huge because,
- again, that gives us greater propensity for
- including people from outside of our community to
- come to that, so I think that \$2500 for the 800
- views or 800 airs is pretty reasonable.
- We agree, and Paula and I sat in MR. FRADIN:
- the breakroom several times when they told us it 10
- would air and a few times it didn't air exactly 11
- when they said. I had contacted my advertising 12
- rep and something I learned was the ads will show 13
- 14 up to a half hour before or after the scheduled
- So if they tell you the ad is going to 15
- show up at 4:10 p.m. on the Golf Channel, if they
- don't break for an advertisement for ten minutes 17
- after that, they might not even show at that 18
- It's not an exact science, so we're glad 19
- because I heard from a few people that they saw 20
- it, so we're very glad that you saw it.
- to hear positive feedback on -- this is something 22
- we would like to continue.

LYNN M. EVANS, CSR

MS. SMODILLA: Well, I think we can also think 24

- 1 about the franchise fees that the Village collects
- from both Comcast and AT&T and, hopefully, the
- 3 Village would consider using more of those
- 4 franchisees specifically for economic development
- 5 and advertising.
- 6 MR. FRADIN: That's a good thought. It came
- 7 out of our overall --
- 8 MS. SCHUMACHER: It comes out of the general
- 9 fund.
- 10 MR. FRADIN: Right, general fund. \$35,000 for
- 11 marketing area the entire village without
- 12 considering the Brewster Creek area that has its
- 13 own budget, so like I said, without getting into
- 14 the specifics, there is some restaurants that
- 15 have asked us to do more to promote them. I
- 16 think as a staff we feel like we do a lot to
- 17 promote the local restaurants, but that's
- 18 something that we're planning on doing, a dining
- 19 Bartlett ad campaign.
- That's all I have.
- 21 CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: Okay. It appears we've
- 22 covered everything on the agenda tonight except
- 23 for the last one, adjournment.
- Do we have a motion to adjourn?

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        MR. PERRI: I motion to adjourn.
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        CHAIRMAN KUBASZKO: Do we have a second?
        MS. SMODILLA: Second.
 3
        THE WITNESS: Okay. Meeting is adjourned.
 5
        MR. FRADIN: Thank you.
                            (Proceedings concluded at
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 7
                             8:20 p.m.)
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     STATE OF ILLINOIS
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     COUNTY OF DU PAGE
 3
                 LYNN M. EVANS, CSR, being first duly
     sworn on oath says that she is a court reporter
     doing business in the state of Illinois; that she
 7
     reported in shorthand the proceedings given at
     the taking of said public hearing and that the
 8
     foregoing is a true and correct transcript of her
     shorthand notes so taken as aforesaid, and
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     contains all the proceedings given at said public
     hearing.
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                             LYNN M. EVANS,
                             CSR No. 084-003473
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