

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
October 10, 2007**

The Economic Development Committee of the DeKalb County Board met on Wednesday, October 10, 2007, @ 7:00p.m. in the Legislative Center's Freedom Room. Chairman Eileen Dubin called the meeting to order. Members present were Ken Andersen, Julia Fauci, Pat Vary, Michael Stuckert, Steve Walt and Jeff Metzger, Sr. Others present were Gary Hanson, Roger Hopkins, Greg Millburg and Margaret Whitwell.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Moved by Ms. Fauci, seconded by Mr. Stuckert, and it was carried unanimously to approve the amended minutes from September 2007.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Dubin said that the committee needs to table the community-based farming issue because Mr. Rasmussen from the City of DeKalb needs to be present also. Ms. Fauci will invite him to the committee meeting to discuss this issue.

Moved by Ms. Fauci, seconded by Mr. Metzger, Sr., and it was carried unanimously to approve the amended agenda.

FY2008 BUDGET

Mr. Anderson asked Mr. Hanson why is there such a big difference between the County Clerk's Revenue figure of \$897,000 vs. the Expenditure figure of \$510,900?

Mr. Hanson, Deputy County Administrator, replied that the County Clerk is part of the General Fund. Some offices do bring in more money than what they spend. She receives that money in her budget through the fact that she is also the Recorder for the County.

Mr. Andersen then asked a question regarding the County Clerk's budget for the Salary and benefits line item under Micrographics from the Actual budget of 2006 to the budget year 2007. He doesn't see anyone being hired or anything else. He said that it has increased substantially and was wondering what this increase is for?

Mr. Hanson said that he did not know and that he would need to research it and get back to the committee on that question.

Ms. Whitwell's, Supervisor of Assessments, budget was reviewed by the committee next.

Chairman Dubin asked Ms. Whitwell, how come your budget says that there is a 32% decrease?

Ms. Whitwell said that in 2007 it is what is called a 4-year-general reassessment year. The legal requirements for public notices greatly increased for this year. There have been a lot of assessment changes in 2007. Statutes state this shall be done. Assessors have the right to go in any time to reassess, but at least once every four years.

Ms. Fauci asked Ms. Whitwell what brings property values down?

Ms. Whitwell said that her office is not really seeing it here in the County. There are some homes being sold for less, but not very many.

Ms. Dubin commented that the County still needs affordable housing.

The committee asked Ms. Whitwell where the worst area in the County is for foreclosures?

Ms. Whitwell said that they are in all areas of the County.

She continued by stating that her office has seen more foreclosures recently than what they have seen in the past. She reminded the committee to look at the Tax Sale that is coming this fall.

EXEMPT EMPLOYEE EVALUATION: SUPERVISOR OF ASSESSMENTS

The committee stated that the Supervisor of Assessments has been doing a very good job. They reviewed her duties with her and discussed her background. It was the consensus of the committee that the Supervisor of Assessments has met all of her requirements with regard to the Standard Work Plan.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Ms. Fauci, seconded by Ms. Vary, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Eileen Dubin

ED:mcs

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