

Plan for vet clinic approved

Written by Elizabeth Barrett
Friday, 15 June 2012 13:51 -

TIF granted for expansion to keep vet personnel

A resolution for a redevelopment plan for Taproot, Inc., which allowed Eastside Animal Center to expand its building, has been approved.

Taproot, Inc. is the corporate name for the veterinary clinic.

The action happened after a public hearing by the Gothenburg City Council on June 5.

In 2011, the council approved a memorandum of understanding so the corporation could obtain tax-increment financing.

TIF supports a project by allowing the tax revenue generated by the property to help pay for its development.

In Taproot's case, the memorandum of understanding happened before the formal agreement so the expansion could happen under favorable weather conditions in the spring of 2011.

City attorney Mike Bacon said the addition was needed quickly to hire personnel, that had worked Gothenburg Animal Hospital which had closed.

Under the agreement, the corporation will receive \$75,000 in TIF bonds for the estimated \$400,000 project.

TIF will expire and both land and improvements will go on tax rolls in 14 years.

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Until then, Taproot will pay taxes on the land and improvements but taxes for improvements will be returned to the corporation for 14 years.

On another matter, the council decided to remain a member of the Lexington Area Solid Waste Agency.

Cities entered into an interlocal agreement that created LASWA, formed a board and charged a fee according to the amount of waste cities hauled to the LASWA landfill north of Lexington.

The agency has since paid off indebtedness for the facility and its operation but is having trouble getting a quorum at board meetings.

Because of a requirement that 40% of LASWA members be represented at a full board meeting for a quorum, city administrator Bruce Clymer said LASWA supervisors want to cut down on members since some city representatives never attend meetings.

Clymer noted that cities that withdraw membership can still haul in trash.

In other business, the council:

passed, on second reading, an ordinance to vacate property belonging to Sander Furniture. The store, at the intersection of Highway 30 and Lake Avenue is on city and state right-of-way and Chad and Miriam Sanders cannot obtain clear title to the property unless it's vacated.

decided to waive the three-hearing rule and introduced an ordinance, which became law, that makes trash haulers return 15 cents per monthly customer billing to the city after haulers received the extra money that should have gone to the clean-city program.

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approved a couple of appointments—John Kreuzscher to the Community Redevelopment Authority (he replaces Pam Slack who has resigned) and Richard Tracci to the Tree Board. Tracci replaces Diane Trullinger, whose term expired and she decided not to remain on the board.

gave the go-ahead for several city streets to be closed for a period of time to accommodate an antique tractor relay (which was June 7 in Ehmen Park), the Farmer's Market in downtown Gothenburg, July 12-Sept. 27, and the Harvest Festival parade on Sept. 15.

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