

TOWN OF TAZEWELL I/EDA

MEETING

APRIL 7, 2025

PRESENT: Glen Keen, Justin Takach, Susan Whittaker, Alicia Bales, Tammy Smith, Lucie D'Amato, LeeAnne Regon, Brad Pyott

ABSENT: Cara Spivey

CALL TO ORDER: Glen Keen at 4:34 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion: Justin Takach; Second Motion: Tammy Smith

All voted to Approve: Aye

- 1.) VISITOR PRESENTATION: Ashley Harris and Tim Danielson presented to I/EDA that we need to renew our application for the Enterprise Zone. There will be a meeting held on May 16th @ 11:00 a.m. at the County Administrator Building on Main Street. Mandy Archer will be overseeing this event. The state is wanting to know what we are contributing to the Enterprise Zone. If anyone is interested, they will have to apply for the VEZ Grant. This is kind of like the EBAG Grant. Glen made sure a business must apply through the VEZ before they get the local benefits.
- 2.) ROADLORE: This is a Restaurant, Venue, and Mercantile, (kind of a spin off from the Frog Level Store).
In Phase #1: The Wayfarer Restaurant will be opening with tastes of Nashville on the menu. They are planning events like Dinner & A Show, which will be ticketed events. Chef Rob Puerto will be the Chef to help with the opening of the restaurant and menu. The owners will be working with local farmers for food options.
In Phase #2: We are working with car clubs and Back of the Dragon. We would like to collaborate with them as much as possible (BOTD). Their goal is to have events that visitors would come and stay in town for a while. Their projected opening date, which will be a "soft opening with invite only," is June 28, 2025. Roadlore have worked into their budget a concept of giving back to the community. They also would like to push the idea that Tazewell is a timeless stop and crossroads between Washington, DC and Nashville, TN.
- 3.) EBAG Application Discussion: (Entrepreneur Business Attraction Grant) The Roadlore, LLC has two different LLC's listed in their proposal. They will need to decide which LLC they want to apply for the EBAG under or they may end up filling out two different EBAG applications. LeeAnne will be talking with Debbie and it will be ready by the next meeting.

Bee'Noodle'd: Their application has been approved by IEDA for furniture, fixtures and personal properties but not real estate.

Glen: We want to make sure these new businesses doesn't miss out on any opportunities. From this point forward, our new Administration wants to make sure this doesn't happen.

Motion to Approve: Justin Takach

Second Motion to Approve: Alicia Bales

Each Member voted Aye. (All in Favor)

- 4.) OGOING PROJECTS: Marinus family – we still haven't heard from them. Jim Ruble did survey this property. We will be putting this off again until May, due to not hearing from the Marinus'.

RAMEY LOT: Public Hearing tomorrow night, Tuesday, April 8, 2025, to transfer the property on Riverside to IEDA; any time the Town transfers property, there has to be a public hearing about it. On the new street, named Foundation Lane, the Town will also be acquiring an additional piece of property to go with the Town's new shop. Brad is hoping to have all of this resolved by next month (May).

FARMER'S MARKET: On Friday, April 4, 2025, Cara and Susan Reeves had a meeting with the Tobacco Commission. Their suggestion was to apply for the AFID Grant which is in the amount of \$50,000.00.

- 5.) MISCELLANEOUS: Town of Tazewell Mountain Biking Project that was tabled in 2020, has now been brought back to the table. Zach Cline has suggested that we do a bike trail and primitive camping sites comparable to the one in Canton, NC.

Tammy Smith: Will there eventually be electricity on the camping sites, or will it always be primitive?

Zach: We will have to work through some easements, maybe eventually there would be electricity.

- 6.) MINI PARK – BILLY WAGNER: Brad has suggested work on a Statue of Billy Wagner to be erected in the Mini Park and rename the park "Billy Wagner Hall of Fame Park." He gave some back history of Mr. Wagner's accomplishments such as, he is one of only 270 players out of 22,000 that have been inducted into the Hall of Fame. He is from Tazewell, VA and graduated from Tazewell High School. Brad feels this would be a tremendous draw for tourists. He asks that the IEDA would be on board with these suggestions and plans as well. We would like to have all of this done by October 2025

Glen: Do we need to make a motion to begin these ideas?

Brad: Yes

Susan Whittaker: Made the Motion for the Billy Wagner Project

Lucie D'Amato: Second the Motion for the Billy Wagner Project

All in Favor: All members said Aye.

7.) Justin Takach made the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Alicia Bales seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

The next meeting will be May 5, 2025 @ 4:30 p.m. @ 1616 Riverside Drive.