

**PUBLIC MINUTES**  
**Topic: Downtown Redevelopment**  
July 24, 2023

President Jerry Mazur called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and noted the topic was the Downtown Redevelopment.

Seth Baker, Van Wert County Foundation Executive Secretary, discussed how the Downtown Redevelopment District was made to allow the community to invest in downtown.

Nate Green of the Van Wert Downtown Redevelopment project made a presentation in connection with a series of Downtown Redevelopment District agreements being sought in connection with the Van Wert Forward Downtown development project. They are asking to approve a total of 70% of new property taxes generated by the Van Wert Forward project over a period of 30 years with taxes already being generated not being touched. The school has already approved the project.

Green noted the project is just one of many tools being used to provide investment for the project, but also noted the community is lucky to have a Van Wert County Foundation willing to put a significant amount of investment into the downtown project with 70% being used for infrastructure, such as sidewalks, water and sewer, landscaping, etc.

Stacy Adam was present and indicated the DRD is similar to the status the city would have through industrial developments. She indicated the faster we develop, the faster we get through the abatement period. This is one way the city can participate in the downtown development. Investments are what is going to boost the downtown.

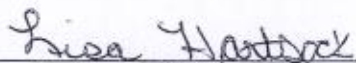
Dr. John Eversman, 120 West Main, asked if funds that were going to be generated were going to be funds that come from all property taxes or just the new redeveloped. Nate Green confirmed that only areas in the redevelopment project.

City Auditor Martha Balyeat indicated that she wants the Van Wert Forward to be responsible for providing the annual report to the city and would like an ordinance stating the same.

Councilman Davis questioned who is responsible for the money to the city. Green indicated that the money would go to the County Treasurer who would distribute money to the city. Balyeat indicated it would be part of the city budget. It was discussed that if funds were needed; for example water lines, that the money would be pulled from this fund prior to any other funds.

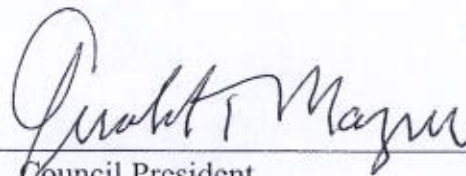
Councilwoman Moore questioned if the city would be responsible for the sidewalk care in front of the redevelopment property and it was noted that the property owners will continue to be responsible for the sidewalk care.

The public meeting was adjourned at 630 p.m.



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Clerk of Council  
Lisa K. Hartsock



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Council President  
Jerry Mazur

August 14, 2023  
DATE