

Minutes of the Veneta Urban Renewal Agency

November 13, 2006

Present: Chairman T. J. Brooker, Darrell Carman, Thomas Cotter, and Sharon Hobart-Hardin

Absent: Marion Esty

Others: Ric Ingham, City Administrator; Margaret Boutell, Community Services Director; Darci Henneman, Assistant City Recorder; Brian Issa, Associate Planner; Amie Collins, Project Coordinator; and Jeneca Jones, West Lane News

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Brooker the Veneta Urban Renewal Agency to order at 9:12 p.m.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Sharon Hobart-Hardin made a motion to approve the consent agenda.
Thomas Cotter seconded the motion.

Vote: Thomas Cotter, aye; Mayor Brooker, aye; Darrell Carman, aye; and Sharon Hobart-Hardin, aye.

The consent agenda as approved included minutes for October 9, 2006.

3. **URBAN RENEWAL UPDATE** – *Selection of Consultant for Plan Update*

Ric asked the Council how they felt about Jeff Tashman's presentation at the earlier work session.

Thomas Cotter agreed to go forth with Mr. Tashman. Sharon Hobart-Hardin felt Mr. Tashman covered everything the City needs and liked his explanation. Darrell Carman agreed and said he was very informative.

Ric informed the Council that public and private planning partnerships can get complicated. Sharon Hobart-Hardin indicated that it may be a challenge to develop the criteria. Thomas Cotter said it will make the City a partner in developing the downtown area. Mayor Brooker indicated that the City needs the greatest effect it can get for its money. It was discussed whether to do the entire plan all at once or in stages. Because the downtown area is considered a blighted area, there was concern about spending a substantial amount of money.

Ric informed the Council that all the downtown area is within the Urban Renewal District and the downtown area has been the same since the 1980s. This area is 22% of the city limits. Ric also said that he is very pleased to have Mr. Tashman and his firm on board and that when Council made a request of Mr. Tashman he responded promptly. Ric also feels Mr. Tashman's firm will not "nickel and dime" us for every request made to Mr. Tashman.

Darrell Carman asked if Mr. Tashman's proposal covers both phases and Ric responded by saying yes, if the amendment is not substantial. He said a substantial amendment requires outreach to the public and will require more work both by Tashman and City

staff.

In response to a question from Darrell Carman, Ric said Mr. Tashman's fee did not include helping with the criteria development. Amie will be involved in the process and can help to develop the criteria.

Mayor Brooker said he was not 100% sure if the City did a major amendment and the City's indebtedness was maximized, would his proposal cover the entire update? Ric indicated that the RFP would determine that.

In response to a question from Mayor Brooker, Ric indicated that Mr. Tashman would be preparing the resolution or ordinance, depending on the amendment being substantial or not. If it were to be substantial, Mr. Tashman would be willing to add that on for an additional fee.

Mayor Brooker said the first step is to find out if the amendment is substantial or not. Sharon Hobart-Hardin added that because the county and Commissioners are involved, this could be a long process.

Ric would like to start the discussion at the December 11, 2006 Urban Renewal Meeting and then have Mr. Tashman back in January.

4. **BROWNFIELD ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT GRANT UPDATE**

Mayor Brooker and Ric both agreed that a decision to go forth with the Brownfield grant would be beneficial to the City.

MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to direct staff to prepare the application for the Brownfield grant. Sharon Hobart-Hardin seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 4-0.

5. **OTHER**

Mayor Brooker adjourned the Veneta Urban Renewal Agency at 9:20 p.m.

Mayor Brooker, Chairman

ATTEST:

Darci Henneman, Assistant City Recorder
(prepared by dhenneman)