

## **COLUMBIA CITY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MINUTES**

**January 14, 2025**

Members present:           President Commissioner Carl Siler  
                                  Vice President Commissioner Scott Gates  
                                  Secretary Commissioner Angela Cotter  
                                  Commissioner Samara Thompson (attended virtually)  
                                  Commissioner Tad Varga

Members absent:           Commissioner David Smith (Ex-Officio)

Also in attendance:       Community Development Director Chip Hill  
                                  Mayor Ryan Daniel  
                                  CCRDC Attorney Greg Hockemeyer  
                                  Whitley County EDC President Dale Buuck

President Siler called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to approve the December minutes. Vice President Gates made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Varga. A roll call vote was taken; all voted aye.

### **Old Business-**

**Election of Officers** – Commissioner Varga motioned that Carl Siler remain president and President Siler motioned that Scott Gates remain Vice President and Angela Cotter remain Secretary. A roll call vote was taken; all voted aye.

**LML Property** – Data has been submitted to the state and we have not heard back yet.

**Jackson-Line Street Site** – Chip said the proposed developer has backed out and Chip is going to ask him to submit a letter stating such. The county commissioners are interested in swapping one of their downtown properties for the Jackson-Line Streets site, which would be used as a parking lot. Chip and Dale are going to meet later this month to potentially discuss reaching out to developers.

**Former Jail Property** – Jeff Schroeder from Moake Park Group presented to the RDC. He shared preliminary drawings to get the opinions of the commissioners. The City has accepted the building from the County and the key transfer will occur on March 1, 2025. The County also approached the mayor about their probation department staying in the building after the key transfer, until they find a new building for them, which Mayor agreed to. Baker Tilly is completing the financial consulting and bonds could potentially be used to pay for this project.

**Smith Brothers Property** – We are waiting to receive the results of the Phase I study that was completed by the current owners.

**New Business-**

**Other Business-**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:49pm.

*Submitted by Ashley Buckles, Executive Assistant to the Mayor*