Minutes
Business Advisory Committee

May 15, 2013 – 3:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers

Members Present:	Donnie Setzer	Jeremy Petty	**Members Absent:**	Nick Martin
	John Stiver	Joe Beaman		Neil Powell
	Tom Warlick	Jerry Hodge		
	Don Essary			

Others Present: Mayor Anne Stedman

Staff Present: Sean Hovis, Asst. City Manager
Rob Powell, Commercial Development Coordinator

Item 1: Opening

Chairman John Stiver welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

Item 2: Minutes

No minutes were submitted for approval at this time.

Item 3: Group Picture - A group picture was taken for the City web site.

Item 4: **Chairman John Stiver** asked the members in attendance for permission to alter the order of the agenda to discuss the Master Economic Plan first. With that agreement, a discussion on the content of the Master Plan ensued. The membership suggested that the plan should include methods of promoting entrepreneurship, such as business incubator and a local investment club. Leadership development, leadership succession, and the development of local business expertise must be addressed.

Item 5: One-Stop Shopping from Planning Department

Assistant City Manager Sean Hovis described the plans to develop a web page which would include the Certificate of Occupancy process along with the other permitting processes. For larger projects, a pre-development project meeting will be strongly encouraged with the developer and his agents, such as his architect and contractor, and representatives from County building inspections, the City Fire Inspection Department, and Planning.

Item 6: **Policies and Regulations for Downtown Development**

Rob Powell provided a handout with some ideas for promoting the active use of downtown storefronts, upper floor residential use of downtown buildings, and for strengthening the visual standards for downtown infill construction. A lack of standards for infill construction in the downtown area and for the major corridors to downtown was discussed. Mayor Stedman asked that short-term and long-term proposals be developed for adding visual standards for new infill construction for the downtown area.

Item 7: **Other**

Jeremy Petty suggested that the City could do more to maintain the appearance of the downtown area, especially by repairing more sidewalks, curbs, and the green strips between the curb and sidewalk. The members discussed the need for the Business Advisory Committee to present such requests to City Council for funding.

Item 8: **Adjournment**

Chairman Stiver stated that the next meeting will be Wednesday, June 19, 2013. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Powell

Rob Powell
Recording Secretary