

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
OF THE  
CITY OF MANASSAS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
April 28, 2020

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**DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mark T. Olsen, Chairman  
Gary Jones, II, Vice-Chairman  
Denise Harrover  
Holmes Steele Smith  
Miguel Pires, Secretary  
Scott Hepburn, Treasurer

Theresa Coates Ellis, Council Liaison  
Patrick J. Small, ED Director, *ex-officio*

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Thomas O. Murphy

W. Patrick Pate, City Manager, *ex-officio*

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Olaun Simmons, Legal Counsel  
Vice Mayor Pam Sebesky  
Councilwoman Michelle Davis Younger  
Sheryl Bass

Chairman Mark Olsen called the meeting to order at 7:30PM. The meeting opened with an Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance. A quorum was present.

**COVID19 Pandemic**

Patrick Small presented a Rent Relief grant program for small businesses in the Historic Downtown made possible by a grant from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. He noted that pursuant to conversations that had been had in advance with each of the members by the Chairman, the program had been designed anticipating a match from both EDA and Historic Manassas Inc. Mr. Small discussed some results of the Economic Development Department's work with the business community and shared survey data and anecdotal evidence of some of the early impacts. He specifically noted that restaurants, some retailers, and most personal services firms were being hit the hardest and that the grant program had been targeted to help them. Patrick Small stated that 28 businesses had applied who were eligible

but that the program had been specifically advertised as first-come/first-served for 24 applicants.

After extensive discussion about the impacts of the business shutdowns and the details of the grant program, Gary Jones made a motion to commit \$20,000 from the EDA to the program to help fund the first 24 applicants to the program which was seconded by Denise Harrover. Further discussion resulted in Scott Hepburn offering a substitute motion to fund all 28 of the eligible applicants. Gary Jones agreed to accept the substitute motion which Denise Harrover declined to second. The substitute motion died. Chairman Olsen asked the Secretary to call the roll on the original motion.

Mark T. Olsen - AYE  
Gary Jones – AYE  
Holmes Smith – NAY  
Denise Harrover – AYE  
Scott Hepburn - AYE  
Miguel Pires – AYE

The motion passed 5-1.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30PM.