

FORT HARRISON REUSE AUTHORITY BOARD MINUTES
MAY 22, 2008

FHRA Board Members Present

Ms. Ann Lathrop, President
Ms. Kris Butler, Vice-President
Mr. Keith Mathews, Member
Mr. Jeff Congdon, Member

FHRA Board Member Absent

Mr. Quake Pletcher

FHRA Staff Present

Ms. Doris Combs

Members of the Public

Ms. Kim Reeves, Browning
Mr. Joe Desormiers, Browning
Mr. Terry Hobert, Browning
Mr. Tom Crouch, City of Lawrence
Mr. Thomas Burns, Burns Development, Inc.

A copy of the public agenda is attached.

Meeting was called to order at 12:05 by Ms. Lathrop.

1. The first item on the agenda was the approval of the April 21, 2008 minutes. Ms. Lathrop called for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Congdon made the motion and Ms. Butler seconded. The vote was 4-0 to approve.

Ms. Lathrop stated that in the Executive Session held prior to this public meeting no items were discussed that were not in accordance with the items listed on the notice.

2. The second item on the agenda was Mr. Burns who presented a proposal to purchase property.

Mr. Burns addressed the vacant lot that is directly behind Building 401 (which Mr. Burns owns). It involves Kent Avenue. Mr. Burns presented the board with a letter which stated it was to be vacated in December 1, 2003. Mr. Burns stated he did not think Kent Avenue had been vacated for reasons unknown to him; and did not think it had been deeded to the Reuse Authority. He was not sure how it worked if he got to the center line of the property.

Ms. Pyatt stated Mr. Burns would have to go through the vacated process and due process. The process would have to go through the City of Indianapolis and City of Lawrence.

Mr. Burns stated if you looked at the back of his building, it just made common sense to extend it to the south where Rising begins. There is a field there now with grown up weeds. Ivy Tech students and some tenants in Building 401 are parking there in the dirt of that field directly south of the building. There are 262 tenants who drive there; there are 160 parking spaces. There are 45 government vehicles which have to be put off site. There is an opportunity to bring in a new tenant and there are no more parking spaces and it impacts the economic development and potential of his building. Mr. Burns stated he was given the green light by Mayor Schneider, Mayor Cantwell, and discussed with Mayor Ricketts and got the go ahead and then there is another idea as to what to do with this vacant property. Somehow that property seems to come into questionable play when Rising Road was built within the last two years. Mr. Burns stated he didn't think anyone had a clear idea of Rising Road's usage at this time. The property he is talking about is directly north of Rising Road and there are markers – Wheeler on the east side; Birtz on the west; and Rising Road on the south side and Building 401 on the north side. Mr. Burns stated he would like to purchase that property, put in a parking lot, some nice wrought iron fencing around the outside of it, bring it up to standard so the government vehicles could be parked there. Mr. Burns stated there was 32 cameras in the building, an elaborate security system. It is pretty secure and there have not been any issues. However, parking is becoming very limited and as a result of that it limits what he can do in the building. Mr. Burns stated that whatever needed to be done to the property to bring it up to standard or to duplicate what has been done in front of Building 401, landscaping, etc., he is willing to do.

Ms. Lathrop asked if the board understood the request and that the board would work with Kim Reeves (Browning) and April Pyatt (Ice Miller) to discuss how it relates to the overall infrastructure plan and legal issues related to the real estate. The board will contact Mr. Burns after discussion of issue to see if there is a formal resolution.

Mr. Mathews asked Mr. Burns to clarify exactly where the property was located. Mr. Burns replied and stated that he thought the property was about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an acre.

Mr. Mathews asked how much money Mr. Burns was going to spend on the development of the property.

Mr. Burns replied with parking lot, lights, etc. about \$125-130,000. He also stated he had been given the green light by Mr. Bingaman to bring a purchase price forward, but there was not a legal description available. Mr. Burns talked with Schneider Engineering and they were able to get a legal description that could be shared with the board.

Ms. Pyatt asked who filed the application for the vacation. Mr. Burns stated he thought it was Mr. Rees when he was the attorney for the City of Lawrence.

Ms. Lathrop asked if it was reasonable that between now and the next board meeting, the board would get back with Mr. Burns. The board members responded yes.

3. The third item on agenda was a brief FHRA update. Ms. Lathrop gave the update; the Reuse Authority does not have an Executive Director at this time. Cassandra Ashley-Jordan left the Reuse Authority on May 9, 2008. FHRA is going through a search firm looking for a replacement and hopefully will have someone on board within next 30 days. The board is very active in that action.

A check was received from Ms. Basham in the amount of \$55,000.00.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 PM.