



FINANCE COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA
115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois
Government Center, Room 400 and 404
Wednesday, October 14, 2020
4:30 p.m.
And Via Remote Attendance

CONTEMPORANEOUS ACCESS FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC IS AVAILABLE IN ROOM 400 OF THE McLEAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER. STREAMING ACCESS WITH A DELAY IS AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING LINK:
<https://www.mcleancountyil.gov/1393/COVID-19>

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes: NONE
3. Appearance by Members of the Public and County Employees

NOTE CHANGE: To promote health and safety, we encourage individuals or groups to email public comment statements to County Administration at admin@mcleancountyil.gov by Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 4:30 pm. E-mailed Statements will be placed in the official minutes, even if the statement reads longer than the individual/group time limit (5 minutes for individuals or group spokesperson). If you choose to provide comment in person, requests must be received by County Administration at admin@mcleancountyil.gov pursuant to the time lines in the McLean County Board Rules (24 hours in advance for an item on the agenda and 2 business days in advance of the meeting for items not on the agenda). All requests will be taken in the order in which they are received, and the total time allowed for public comment at Committee meetings per County Board rules is 30 minutes.

Please also note that we will adhere to the Phase 4 direction by the Governor which limits the number of individuals that can gather in the County Board Room. In-person attendance will be on a first come basis (after those who have requested to provide public comment). Recommended social distancing protocols will be adhered to at all meetings.

4. Departmental Matters:
 - A. Camille Rodriguez, County Administrator
 - 1) Items to be presented for action:
 - a. Request approval of amendment to the McLean County Targeted Development Loan Program in response to COVID-19 impact.
 - 2) Items to be presented for information:
 - a. Other
5. Recommend Payment of bills and transfers, if any, to County Board NONE
6. Other Business and Communication
7. Adjournment



10/14/20

TO: Chairman John McIntyre
CC: County Board Members
County Administrator Camille Rodriguez

FROM: Patrick Hoban, CEcD

SUBJECT: Recovery Loans Conversion to Grants II

The Community Development Corporation (CDC), a subsidy of the Bloomington Normal Economic Development Council (BNEDC), administers the following McLean County Recovery Loan Funds to meet the needs of McLean County businesses impacted by COVID-19.

Micro Bridge Loan

\$5,000 loan for established businesses in the process of receiving additional funding. The Bridge Loan is a 2-year loan with a 1% interest rate and deferred payments until January 2021.

Recovery Loan

A 20% gap loan (up to \$20,000) to supplement a traditional loan. The Recovery Loan last the life of the financial institution's loan with an interest rate of 1% and deferred payments until January 2021.

Application Update

The Community Development Corporation Board approved one \$5,000 Recovery Loan. We funded this first loan from private donor funds saving the County funds for future loans or grants. The private donor asked to remain unnamed.

The EDC has received no new applications as of the last update on September 2nd, but we have another business interested. We still believe the lack of interest is due to federal forgivable loan programs and state grant programs.

Conversion to Forgivable Loans

During the September 2020 Finance Committee meeting, Members requested that the EDC generate ideas that would convert the current loan opportunities into grant programs, specifically to assist McLean County small employers impacted by COVID-19. In the following weeks, Finance Committee Members shared recommendations with the EDC; the recommendations included grant and forgivable loan programs.

As was included in the October 2020 Finance Committee discussion, the following is a consolidated summary of those recommendations:

#1 Small Business Grants

Description: \$5,000 - \$10,000 grants to assist McLean County small businesses impacted by COVID
Use: Supplies and Technology to adapt and recover from COVID restrictions (PPE, sanitation supplies, drive-up windows, heat lamps for outdoor dining, software to increase online sales)

Restrictions: McLean County small businesses (forced to close due to COVID)

#2 Forgivable Loans

Description: 0% interest loans between 20%-100% forgivable if funds used for COVID expenses

Use: Supplies and Technology to adapt and recover from COVID restrictions (PPE, sanitation supplies, drive-up windows, heat lamps for outdoor dining, software to increase online sales)

Restrictions: McLean County small businesses (forced to close due to COVID)

#3 Food Insecurity Grants

Description: Fund McLean County restaurants to provide meals to address food insecurity

Use: Grants for restaurants to pay for meals for McLean County residents

Restrictions: McLean County small restaurants

During the October 2020 Finance Committee meeting, the Members also discussed ideas to make the current loan programs forgivable to assist McLean County small employers impacted by COVID-19.

Because the October 2020 Finance Committee agenda listed a discussion only, action was not taken on the recommendations as shared with the Committee.

To that end, the EDC and McLean County Administration collaborated to provide the Finance Committee with a recommendation for action.

Based on the feedback received, we recommend the following amendments to the current McLean County Recovery Loan(s):

#1 Convert Both Loan Programs to Forgivable Loans

Forgive the following expenses to adapt and recover from COVID restrictions:

- Supplies – receipts of PPE, sanitation, extending outdoor dining
- Technology – receipts of software to increase online sales
- Real Estate Improvements – receipts for drive-up or walk-up windows
- Food for Residents – proof of food donation to McLean County residents

#2 Increase Amount of \$5,000 Loan

Increase the current loan amount from \$5,000 to \$10,000

#3 0% Interest Rate for both Loans

Change the current interest rate of 1% to 0% for both loans

#4 Added Restrictions

McLean County small businesses (with commercial property) forced to close due to COVID

#5 Forgive Current Loans

Allow the current lender's loan to be forgiven following the guidelines above

Patrick Hoban, CEcD
CEO
Bloomington Normal Economic Development Council