

**APPROVED MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
CITY OF WYOMING, MINNESOTA
JANUARY 11, 2021
6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

CALL OF ROLL:

On a Call of the Roll the following members of the Wyoming EDA were present:

EDA Members: Mayor Iverson, Council Member Schilling, Mike Soule, Steve Sicheneder, Andrew Buccanero and Alex Bulmer

Also Present: Robb Linwood - City Administrator and Nancy Hoffman – Chisago County HRA/EDA

ABSENT:

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

OPEN FORUM:

“An opportunity for members of the public to address the EDA on items not on the current Agenda. Items requiring EDA action maybe deferred to staff for research and future EDA Agendas if appropriate.”

1. Consider approving the minutes of the “Regular Meeting” of the Wyoming, Minnesota City EDA for December 14, 2020

A MOTION WAS MADE BY EDA MEMBER SICHENEDER SECONDED BY EDA MEMBER SCHILLING TO APPROVE THE “REGULAR MEETING” MINUTES OF THE WYOMING, MINNESOTA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FOR DECEMBER 14, 2020

Voting Aye: Iverson, Schilling, Buccanero, Bulmer, and Sicheneder

Voting Nay:

Abstain: Soule

SCHEDULED BID LETTINGS: NONE.

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE

CONSENT AGENDA:

Items under the “Consent Agenda” will be adopted with one motion; however, council members may request individual items to be pulled from the consent agenda for discussion and action if they choose.

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS:

COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS

2. 2021 Meeting Dates

The EDA discussed a potential conflict of the February meeting date. After discussion and review it regarding the February meeting date and the 2021 dates the EDA did come to the conclusion that there was not conflict in February. The board agreed to the dates as presented.

3. Vote and Assign EDA Positions for 2021

A discussion commenced and the EDA determined it was practical to keep positions the same as they were in 2020 for 2021.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY EDA MEMBER SOULE SECONDED BY EDA MEMBER SCHILLING TO APPROVE THE EDA POSITIONS AS THE SAME AS THE PREVIOUS YEAR FOR 2021 AS FOLLOWS:

President – Lisa Iverson
Vice President – Steve Sicheneder
Executive Director – Robb Linwood
President Pro Term – Mike Soule
Treasurer – Alex Bulmer
Assistant Treasurer – Andrew Buccanero
Secretary – Robb Linwood

Voting Aye: Iverson, Sicheneder, Bulmer, Buccanero, Schilling, and Soule

Voting Nay:

Abstain:

4. Roers and Bingham Property

Nancy Hoffman and Administrator Linwood discussed a conference call they had with Roers in regards to the MHFA tax credit award winners. Roers stated that there were no for profit firms awarded, no one outside the twin cities metro area rewarded and that they felt the application was not awarded as it should have been. Roers was interested in trying another application in 2021 if the Wyoming EDA was interested. Roers did believe it would be productive prior to application that the firm, city, county and MHFA have a meeting to determine a complete application. The EDA asked if there was anything else they could do as an authority to try to ensure a successful project in the future? City Administrator Linwood suggested to work with MHFA and really make sure the application from Roers is hitting all the necessary criteria to earn points and be awarded the tax credit.

City Administrator Linwood discussed with the board with an idea if we looked to subdivide the parcel by user. We seem to get inquiries from smaller businesses in regards to this property, but not often from a large enough user to utilize the entire site. Mr. Linwood then discussed the potential off adding a road and water and sewer to the property and reference a design on is screen. Nancy Hoffman Chisago County HRA/EDA Director talked that there are infrastructure grants that DEED has that would allow for a 50% match for infrastructure like roads, water and sewer to serve a property to create new business.

The EDA did ask if the grant was just for manufacturing or if commercial and residential would still be an option using the grant. Ms. Hoffman stated the grant was only valid for manufacturing businesses. The EDA wanted to make sure that we were thoughtful about what potential business or entity went on the property we would be considerate since it was near a residential area. The

EDA gave feedback about the idea and appreciated a different approach, they still did not want to completely rule out the idea of multifamily on the property if there was an opportunity.

5. 2021 Goals and Initiatives

1. Sell the Bingham Property

- Affordable housing is a need and would be ideal for this property.
- Have a proactive approach on finding an industrial businesses or multi-family apartment to purchase this property.

2. Job Fair

- This event was successful last year therefore the EDA wants to hold the event again this year. We will look at potential virtual visits of businesses in 2021 depending on the Covid-19 situation.

3. Business Recruitment

- Identify businesses that could be brought into Wyoming, as well as keep an open mind as to what areas can be developed or redeveloped. City Administrator Linwood discussed they have had more inquiries in the last few months from businesses.

4. Marketing

- Constant contact as an inexpensive solution for EDA marketing.

6. HWY 8 Design Feedback

Administrator Linwood stated that Chisago County has been working on a project to reconstruct highway 8 and have some initial designs they presented to the council, planning commission and EDA. The EDA provided feedback on the plan that included that the designs of "A" and "G" were viable, but to look at adding more frontage road that would serve future businesses. They also stated that they were not interested in the Reduced Conflict Intersections (RCI) or signaled RCI's.

UPDATES:

Discussed about a new round of business grants from the Chisago County HRA/EDA that was given by the state. City Administrator Linwood stated they have been busy providing information to our businesses about the new opportunity.

Mr. Sicheneder stated that there seems to be an issue with semi-trucks between Glen Oak and Wyoming Trail going to Polaris. He stated that this is the way that google maps gives to individuals. He asked if staff could reach out to Polaris to let their vendors to give directions to the plant. Mr. Linwood stated that he would reach out to Polaris to give them the information.

ADJOURN

A MOTION WAS MADE BY EDA PRESIDENT IVERSON ADJOURNED THE JANUARY 11, 2021 "REGULAR MEETING" OF THE WYOMING, MINNESOTA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING AT 7:37PM

Voting Aye: Iverson, Bulmer, Schilling, Buccanero, Sicheneder and Soule

Voting Nay:

Abstain: