

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING
OCTOBER 23, 2014**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Lieske called the meeting to order at 7:04 am in the City Council Chambers, 415 Central St. W.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Prigge, Zellner, Furrer, Lieske, Kuchinka, Pierskalla and Daleiden

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF PRESENT:

Joel Erickson, City Administrator

OTHERS PRESENT:

None

2. AGENDA

Lieske asked if there were any additions, deletions or corrections to the agenda. A motion was made by Furrer and seconded by Kuchinka to approve the agenda as presented. Vote for: Prigge, Zellner, Furrer, Lieske, Kuchinka, Pierskalla and Daleiden. Against: None Vote 7-0. Motion carried.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 18, 2014

REGULAR

Lieske asked if there were any additions, deletions or corrections to the minutes. A motion was made by Kuchinka and seconded by Prigge to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2014 regular meeting. Vote for: Prigge, Zellner, Furrer, Lieske, Kuchinka, Pierskalla and Daleiden. Against: None Vote 7-0. Motion carried.

4. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 2014 TREASURER'S REPORTS AND MONTHLY BILL(S)

Erickson said September had a beginning balance of \$221,341.16, revenues of \$1,066.35 and expenses of \$1,799.35 for an ending balance of \$220,608.16. He said the bill(s) paid were for the summer internship program with Rice County, payroll/associated benefits for staff, funding for the Crawl and LiveWire Films for monthly video hosting. Erickson said there were no bills to be paid by October 15, 2014. Lieske asked if anyone had any questions. There were no questions. A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Prigge to approve the September 2014 Treasurer's Report and monthly bill(s). Vote for: Prigge, Zellner, Furrer, Lieske, Kuchinka, Pierskalla and Daleiden. Against: None Vote 7-0. Motion carried.

5. OLD BUSINESS

a. Discuss an “App” for Lonsdale

Erickson said this has been discussed at the last several meetings and a decision should be made whether or not to move forward with the app. Prigge said she watched the second webinar and the app is awesome. She said the programmer said that access can be given to businesses, the schools, etc. so they can post their own alerts, sales, etc. so staff would not have to spend time on updating the app. Prigge said if the Board moves fast, the app can be up and running by Christmas. Furrer said she is not sure if the app is needed and it might end up having blowups on it, like Facebook. Prigge said the app does not have a public forum. Daleiden said the Board either needs to get the word out that the app is happening or that it is not happening. Prigge said the point of the app is to be more mobile friendly because the City’s website is not. Furrer said she was concerned with the timing of promotions for businesses, either getting them up too late or removing them too late. She said staff is here to run the City, not other businesses. Zellner suggested that instead of uploading each businesses promotions, etc., a link to the businesses website could be provided. There was general discussion on the pro’s and con’s of the app. A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Prigge to approve obtaining an app for Lonsdale from mycommunitymobile. Vote for: Prigge, Zellner, Furrer, Lieske, Kuchinka, Pierskalla and Daleiden. Against: None Vote 7-0. Motion carried. Furrer said staff should track the number of hours spent on the app. The Board agreed.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Consider Approval to Submit a Small Cities Development Program Grant for Housing Rehabilitation Only and Not a Comprehensive Grant Application

Erickson said previously the grant application for both housing and water main for Area No. 5 seemed to be as good as it gets based on the number of low to moderate income residents. He said he recently spoke to Pettipiece & Associates, Inc. and was told in their discussions with MN DEED, the water main portion of the application would hurt the overall grant scoring and reduce the chances of being invited to submit a full application because many communities have the same need and the City does not have any conditions imposed on its water system. Erickson said Pettipiece was recommending to only submitting an application for housing. He said as much as he does want to include the water main, it does make sense to not include it if it will reduce the chances of getting funding for housing rehabilitation. He said since the EDA is the board that approved submitting an application and approved the agreement with Pettipiece, the Board needs to decide how to proceed. Furrer asked how many homes received grant funds for rehabilitation projects last time. Erickson said it was between 12 and 15. A motion was made by Furrer and seconded by Prigge to approve only submitting a SCDP Grant application for housing rehabilitation and not a comprehensive application that also includes water main. Vote for: Prigge, Zellner, Furrer, Lieske, Kuchinka, Pierskalla and Daleiden. Against: None Vote 7-0. Motion carried.

b. Update on the Lonsdale First! Program

Erickson said that 23 businesses are participating in the program and that the stamps and cards have been ordered. He said he needs to send 6 businesses invoices. Erickson said he plans to order banners to be placed in various locations around town during the program. Prigge said to contact College City for banners. The Board discussed allowing businesses into the program after the deadline and decided to allow businesses to participate and the fee of \$50.00 will need to be paid.

Daleiden left the meeting.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Additional Items to be Discussed

Marketing Videos:

Erickson said the third video, which is on the business park was shot and the draft is available for comments.

The Crawl:

Erickson provided an update on the Crawl and reviewed the press release issued by the Crawl.

b. Items for the November 20, 2014 Agenda

The Board did not request any specific items to be placed on the agenda.

8. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Furrer and seconded by Prigge to adjourn the meeting at 7:58am. Vote for: Prigge, Zellner, Furrer, Lieske, Kuchinka and Pierskalla. Against: None Vote 6-0. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator