

Economic Development Board meeting November 1, 2012

Present: Dickrell, Michalski, Sennholz, Wagner
Absent: Hendler, Meissner, Wolf
Others: Angell, Barg, James-Mork, Olson, Sonnemann

Sennholz called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m. in Room 108 of the City Hall Plaza.

Approve minutes – October 4th

Dickrell moved and Wagner seconded the motion to approve the October 4th minutes as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

Conflicts of interest

No members indicated that they had a conflict of interest with anything on the agenda.

Citizens comments

Sennholz invited comments from citizens, but no one spoke at this time.

Update on economic development activities

Barg and Angell gave an update on current economic development activities as follows:

- A second reading of the ordinance adopting a new zoning code is scheduled for the November 13th City Council meeting.
- Groundbreaking for the PreventionGenetics facility in the Mill Creek Business Park is expected in late November/early December, with construction to start in January.
- Work continues on the site of the Top Form facility, with the goal to complete the “shell” of the new building by Christmas.
- Considerable discussion occurred on MEDA’s funding request, due to the Council’s decision to shift funds to the EDB budget for reallocation. It was agreed that Olson will submit MEDA’s 2013 budget for review at the next regular EDB meeting.

Consider funding request – downtown façade program

Angell outlined a request for \$20,000 as part of extending the downtown façade program. The intent is to partner with Main Street’s contribution of \$10,000 to make it possible to for 2-3 more loans for downtown projects. If approved, Angell noted that the funds would come from the balance of the former local RLF. Wagner moved and Michalski seconded the motion to recommend approval of the request to the City Council. Motion carried 4-0.

Receive interview team’s recommendation for strategic plan consultant

The interview team noted that both firms are qualified and would probably do a good job, and that they want to conduct some research and background checks. However, interview team members and others who attended the interviews generally gave a slight advantage to Redevelopment Resources, due to their fresh and creative approach.

Announce date/time for next Board meeting

Barg agreed to work with members to set up a special meeting for the week of November 5th to make a decision on the selection of a consultant. Sennholz announced that the next regular Board meeting will be on Thursday, December 6th at 3:00 p.m.

With no further business before the Board, Michalski moved and Dickrell seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0. Sennholz adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Barg, City Administrator