

Economic Development Board meeting July 10, 2014

Present: Dickrell, Meissner, Michalski, Sennholz, Wagner and Staab (arrived at 3:08 p.m.).
Absent: Hendler
Others: Olson, Dieringer, James-Mork, Angell and Krogman.

Sennholz called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in Room 108 of the City Hall Plaza.

Approve minutes

EDB14-21 Motion by Dickrell, 2nd by Michalski to approve the minutes of June 5, 2014.

Motion carried

Conflicts of interest

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

Citizen comments

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

Economic development reports

- General updates
 - Angell reported on the asbestos removal for the News Herald building. \$50,000 was budgeted, bid was \$24,000. Asbestos abatement will be completed by September 1st. Site is currently being used by Nikolai Construction while working on Penny Court. He will be in contact with them to see when their equipment will be moved.
 - Dieringer reported that she been working with Karen Issacson from MACCI to meet with downtown businesses. Parking has been a major concern.
 - Olson reported there will be an Energy Roundtable discussion on July 24th at W. 14th. She had recently attend the Bio Med Conference and felt it went well. They have one promising contact and they have been in contact with him. She will be attending the ICSC conference in Wausau. This will focus on Central Wisconsin.
- Downtown Master Plan Update
 - The first community meeting has been scheduled for September 17th from 5 p.m. – 7

Review updated report on the Housing Study Recommendations

The subcommittee met and assigned jobs to the members:

- Develop City subdivision (small scale with “pay as you go” infrastructure) * Point person – Jason *
- Convert single-family rentals to single-family ownership (City incentives) * Point person – Steve *
- Institute rating system (platinum, gold, etc.) for ranking all rental housing * Point person – Mary *

- Adopt and enforce comprehensive property maintenance standards * Point person – Jason *
- Implement active rental housing inspection program * Point person – Jason *
- Offer grants and loans to improve rental housing when appropriate * Point person – Mary *
- Encourage new rental housing to increase supply and upgrade existing rentals, and streamline City’s review process to grant approvals in a more timely manner * Point person - Jason *
- Work with school district on new construction through ACE program * Point person - Jason/Steve *

A discussion was held regarding the rating system and how that would work. James-Mork has been looking at other communities which have a rating system in place.

Expectation for Business Development Director position

Barg, Angell, Michalski, and Olson met and developed the expectations for the Business Development Director position. This committee discussed the proposed expectations. Staff was asked to come up with and add branding language to the expectations.

Announce next Board meeting date/time

The next meeting will be Thursday, July 17th at 3:00 p.m. to discuss the 2015 budget.

Motion by Dickrell, 2nd by Meissner, to adjourn at 4:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Krogman, Administrative Assistant III