

City of Isanti
Economic Development Authority
Regular Meeting Minutes of
October 23, 2012
Isanti City Hall

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kuechle at 7:00 p.m.

a. Pledge of Allegiance

b. Roll Call

Members Present: Larry Kuechle, Tara Hallberg, Jim Kennedy, Keith Dragisich

Members Absent: George Wimmer (Excused)

Staff Present: Economic Development Director Sean Sullivan

c. Agenda Modifications

Motion to approve the agenda as presented by Member Kennedy, second by Member Hallberg. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Approve Minutes of September 2012 Regular Economic Development Authority Meeting

Motion to approve the agenda by Member Kennedy, second by Member Hallberg. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Business Climate Survey Preliminary Information

Economic Development Director Sullivan presented the Staff Memo. Sullivan indicated the he had received 12 surveys back at the time the preliminary data was put together. Since then he has received 3 more. 9% percent of the surveys have been returned at this point.

Chair Kuechle stated that with only a 9% return of surveys it would be very difficult to draw any conclusions/strategies with limited data. He wondered if it wouldn't have been better to send out some City Staff to conduct interviews.

Sullivan indicated that there was still quite a bit of time left to get more surveys as the deadline was November 1st. He stated that he was hoping to get 30-40% return. He also stated that if a lot of the survey were from industrial companies that there could possibly be some meaningful data that could be gleaned from that.

Sullivan asked the EDA if the way in which the preliminary data was presented was the form that the EDA would like the final report in.

The consensus of the EDA was that the format was good.

4. **Minnesota Manufacturers Week**

Economic Development Director Sullivan presented the Staff Memo. Sullivan highlighted the fact that the Mayor issued a Minnesota Manufacturers Week proclamation for October 22-26. Economic Development Director Sullivan implemented a new program that included Certificates of Commendation signed by Governor Dayton to be presented by the City to each manufacturer in the City. The City has 19 manufacturing businesses.

5. **Other Business / Updates / Communications**

- a. 209 Main St W Update
- b. Business Prospects
- c. Isanti County / GPS 45:93 – Tools for Business Success
- d. Isanti Area Chamber of Commerce Events
- e. Katie Clark New Commissioner of DEED
- f. Greater MSP
- g. MREJ Industrial Conference
- h. Business Arrivals and Departures in Isanti 2012

Economic Development Director Sullivan asked if there were any questions about the Staff Memo and highlighted that there was a new Deed Commissioner.

6. **Adjournment**

Member Kennedy motioned, seconded by Member Hallberg to adjourn at 7:10 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Dated at Isanti, Minnesota, this 24th day of October, 2012.

Respectively Submitted,

Sean M. Sullivan, Economic Development Director