

**City of Isanti  
Economic Development Authority  
Regular Meeting Minutes of  
April 26, 2011  
Isanti City Hall**

**1. Call To Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kuechle at 7:04 p.m.

**a. Pledge of Allegiance**

**b. Roll Call**

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

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Economic Development Director Sean Sullivan

**c. Agenda Modifications**

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

**2. Approve Minutes of March 22, 2011 Regular Economic Development Meeting**

Motion by Wimmer, second by Dragisich to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**3. Consider Adoption of Amended EDA Bylaws**

Economic Development Director Sullivan presented the Staff memo and indicated that the City Council had amended the enabling resolution to incorporate the EDA recommendations made at the March 22, EDA meeting. Sullivan outlined the changes made removing the Youth Member and correcting a “typo” in Section 11 of the EDA bylaws

Motion by Wimmer, second by Dragisich to adopt the amended EDA bylaws as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **4. 2010 MBAF Reports**

Economic Development Director presented the Staff Memo and indicated that all filing requirements had been met for all projects receiving subsidies. Sullivan highlighted the fact the 702 E Dual Blvd NE had been purchased by JZS Isanti, LLC and that they assumed the job creation requirements that had not been met by Three Star Holdings, LLC. This project is anticipated to have 12 full time people working at the Isanti facility by the end of May of 2011.

Chair Kuechle inquired as to the status of Isanti Retail Meats and the 5 year operation rule.

Member Wimmer stated that the business is doing well and has exceeded expectations.

Economic Development Director Sullivan stated that Isanti Retail Meats was in full compliance and no further reporting was necessary.

No formal action was requested on this item and none was taken.

#### **5. Review of Economic Development Brochure**

Economic Development Director Sullivan presented the staff memo and passed around draft brochures to for review by EDA members. The draft brochures had 3 colors schemes and a consensus on the preferred package was requested. Sullivan asked the EDA if “Land for a \$1” should be added to the brochure as it has been a successful program in the past.

Discussion ensued.

Member Wimmer stated that he thought that the “Land for \$1” should be added to the brochure.

Member Hallberg identified a “typo” on the housing bullet.

Chair Kuechle stated that “skilled” workforce to be added to the brochure and to identify a large: workforce locally available.

Member Dragisich inquired when the rail industrial park study would be complete.

Economic Development Director Sullivan stated that a preliminary report would be presented to the County EDA in May

The consensus of the EDA was to select the Blue/Green color scheme and to incorporate the changes suggested by Members Wimmer, Member Hallberg and Chair Kuechle and to direct staff to move forward on production of the brochure.

## **6. Other Business / Updates**

Economic Development Director Sullivan highlighted the following items.

- a. 2011 Minnesota Cup Soccer Event Update
- b. Update on Special TIF projects
- c. Purchase of 702 E Dual Blvd NE by JZS Isanti, LLC
- d. Business Retention Visits
- e. Business Prospects
- f. GPS 45:93 Meeting Agenda / Minutes
- g. Isanti County EDA Meeting Summary
- h. Summary of Real Estate Journal Healthcare Conference
- i. TIF Management Project Update
- j. Mayor's Employer Appreciation Luncheon
- k. Business Arrivals and Departures in Isanti

Economic Development Director Sullivan stated that soccer event and real estate signage was up and it looked good. He acknowledged City of Isanti and Isanti Chamber collaboration on the event.

Economic Development Director Sullivan stated that the closing for JZS Isanti, LLC had significant financial benefit to the city resulting in the collection of nearly \$60,000 in back taxes and special assessments. Including 2011 taxes, the benefit to the city was over \$70,000.

Member Wimmer updated the EDA on a visit by Senator Franken regarding foreclosures and local economic conditions. Senator Franken went on a tour of Ever Cat Fuels and demonstrated a good understanding of energy issues and he is also in that committee. He was impressed with the quality of Senator Franken's staff and was excited at the possibilities of working with them.

## **7. Adjournment**

Member Hallberg motioned, seconded by Member Dragisich to adjourn at 7:28 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Dated at Isanti, Minnesota, this 27th day of April, 2011.

Respectively Submitted,

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Sean M. Sullivan, Economic Development Director