

City of Isanti
Economic Development Authority
Regular Meeting Minutes of
June 23, 2009
Isanti City Hall

1. Call To Order

a. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge taken.

b. Roll Call

Members Present: Chair Larry Kuechle, Jim Kennedy and George Wimmer

Members Absent: Keith Dragisich

Staff Present: Community Development Director Vita

c. Agenda Modifications

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

2. Approve Minutes of May 2009 Regular Economic Development Authority Meeting

Motion by Wimmer, second by Kennedy to approve without modifications. Motion carried unanimously.

3. City Council Goal Update

Vita presented the Staff memo. Wimmer stated that the Employer's luncheon was a success. Legislators were present at the event and anniversary awards were presented. Wimmer stated that he has been told the Isanti is the only City known to hold such an event. Wimmer informed the EDA that the businesses have expressed their thankfulness for the event.

Wimmer stated that the City has been asked to present at the League of Minnesota Cities on the Isanti Retail Meats project and Downtown Revitalization.

Wimmer stated that the City has tracked foreclosures and he was asked to represent Greater Minnesota on the Greater Minnesota Housing Funds announcement on additional resources to assist in the foreclosure crisis.

Wimmer discussed the Marketing flyer that was presented to the EDA at the meeting. It is a no cost to the City item to increase exposure about the City. Vita stated that the intent is a warm welcome to people visiting our City to encourage them to shop our stores and to visit again.

Wimmer stated that the Employer's luncheon and the marketing flyer are sustainable projects that can continue in the future.

4. TIF / Abatement Consultant sub-committee

Vita presented a Staff memo.

Wimmer and Kuechle volunteered for the sub-committee, if needed. The interview times were fine with the EDA.

5. HRA Discussion

Vita presented a Staff memo.

Wimmer stated that he asked this matter to be placed on the agenda to ensure that the City considers all of its options. Wimmer stated that the City has not pursued housing in the past. Wimmer questioned if the City might want to redevelop areas in the future.

Kuechle questioned if Wimmer's vision is to bond for projects. Wimmer stated that he is envisioning an EDA with HRA powers with approvals on all matters coming before the City Council. Wimmer said that the City could bond if it chose that this is what is desired. Wimmer stated that minimally the HRA should be explored.

6. Current Projects Receiving Business Assistance update

Kuechle stated that he requested that Vita place this matter on the agenda. Vita discussed the Staff memo. Kuechle stated this concern on the fiscal issues related to businesses in default. Vita stated that Staff is keeping a watchful eye to ensure that projects are meeting their obligations and if they are not, to ensure that the City does not rebate money that the business should not have rebated.

Vita stated that this matter is very delicate – the City is trying to be pro-business, but Staff must perform our job in alerting projects to their defaulted projects.

7. Other Business / Updates

Vita presented the information and requested if the Authority had any questions. They did not.

- a. County EDA
 - b. Downtown Chamber Committee
 - c. Business Retention visits
 - d. Promotional signage.
 - e. Downtown Parking Signage Update
 - f. Other
- None.

8. Adjournment

Kennedy motioned, seconded by Wimmer to adjourn at 7:24 pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Dated at Isanti Minnesota, this ____ day of July 2009.

Respectively Submitted,

Carla MK Vita, Community Development Director