

**City of Isanti
Economic Development Authority
Regular Meeting Minutes of
June 3, 2014
Isanti City Hall**

1. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order by President Wimmer at 7:30 p.m.

a. Pledge of Allegiance

b. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Tara Hallberg, Keith Dragisich, Dan Collison, Sue Larson,
Adam Johnson and George Wimmer

Commissioners Absent: Steve Lundeen

Staff Present: Economic Development Director Sean Sullivan

c. Agenda Modifications

No modifications to the agenda were presented.

2. Approve Minutes of May 6, 2014 Regular Economic Development Meeting

Motion by Larson, second by Johnson to approve the minutes for May 6, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Other Business / Updates

- a. Business Prospects
- b. Rum River BMX Project Update
- c. GPS 45:93
- d. Isanti Street Dance – Chris Brooks
- e. Isanti Family Farmers Market
- f. Isanti Area Chamber of Commerce
- g. Makerspace Concept
- h. East Central MN Job Fair 2015
- i. Development Scenario Project Update
- j. Welcome Marketing Brochure
- k. City Website Update
- l. Special Assessment Prepay Update
- m. IEDC Conference
- n. 2014 New Housing Starts

o. 2013-14 Business Arrivals and Departures in Isanti

Economic Development Director Sullivan highlighted the staff memo. Sullivan indicated that Family Dollar had submitted a formal Site Plan Application and that the project was scheduled for 2014. Sullivan has been working with a local theater group that is considering locating in an existing building in historic downtown Isanti. It should bring additional traffic to downtown which was one of the EDA priorities. Sullivan state the Farmer Market opened this past week and it was well attended. Lots of new vendors and a lot of returning vendors. It's a great start. Sullivan indicated that he was in contact with a few hotel groups and that the BMX project was certainly helping in garnering interest in Isanti. He noted that there has been some national recognition of the pending project. Sullivan indicated that the BMX project was moving along.

Member Collison asked if the Theater was looking downtown.

Sullivan indicated they were.

President Wimmer added that the Bike Shop was moving into a bigger space downtown which was very positive.

Sullivan indicated that he had been working with him to finds a new location and was happy he located downtown

Member Dragisich asked where we were at with the analysis of the indoor BMX track.

Sullivan indicated the BMX had provided the requested information from the City and bound Counsel. City has reviewed projected cash flow and other documents and has completed a 40 year lease and operating document outlining who will do what and the financial considerations. The City Council has already approved the form and content of the lease subject to the City Attorney approval. Sullivan indicated there was risk associated with the project and that the City Council has been supportive of the project.

Commissioner Wimmer indicated bids had been received for the project. They ranged from 2.3 to 2.9 Million. City was working with low bidder to reduced costs further with a goal of coming in under 2 Million. Everyone is working tirelessly to get the cost down on this project. Goal is to open for the Winter season. Looking at 2000 visitors per week in Winter. Numbers based on indoor track called Rehbeins.

When will we have final numbers and a decision made was asked by Member Dragisich

President Wimmer indicated it would be acted on June 17, 2014.

Sullivan outlined the financing mechanism of Tax Abatement Bonds

The City Website is moving along. Sullivan received the first Menu ideas for Website. Will update.

Sullivan asked the EDA for more feedback for the Welcome Brochure. Decision to include testimonials on last page was consensus of EDA. Focus on business owners but will consider a resident or BMX comment if it serves the brochure well.

IEDC update from Sullivan indicated that companies felt that the recession was over and that we were healing. Investment is coming.

Sullivan highlighted the success of the housing market in Isanti. 19 permits have been pulled as of June 4, 2014.

4. Adjournment

Commissioner Larson motioned, seconded by Commissioner Johnson to adjourn at 7:47 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Dated at Isanti, Minnesota, this 4th day of June 2014.

Respectively Submitted,

Sean M. Sullivan, Economic Development Director