Lamberton EDA Minutes

August 12, 2019 ● 5:15 p.m.

The Lamberton EDA met in regular session in the city council room on August 12, 2019 with Board Members L. Sik, M. Bents, R. Arkell and L. Bittner present. C Stavnes, B. Bartholomaus and C Wetter absent. Others in attendance were: Debbie Vollmer and Madonna Peterson.

Chair Arkell called the meeting to order. On a motion by Sik and seconded by Bittner the agenda was unanimously approved.

Sik moved and Bittner seconded for unanimous approval of the July 1, 2019 EDA special meeting minutes and July 8, 2019 minutes.

Vollmer discussed the status of the EDA business loans. After the treasurer’s report was reviewed, Bittner moved and Bents seconded with unanimous approval.

Old Business was next. It was mentioned that there has been uncertainty of the continuation of Lamberton Meats business on Main Street. Nothing official on the decision as of yet. The board has an unsecured loan with Lamberton Meats and after some discussion it was decided that we will have to wait until it is officially closed.

Onto new business. Vollmer went over the proposed EDA budget with the Board that will be submitted for approval at the city council. There were some numbers in the budget that were split into other categories for better tracking, but overall the 2020 budget will stay similar to the 2019 budget. I was also discussed about requesting some funds from the city to the EDA. Due to the EDA already having funds to use in their account and nothing in the works for Economic Development, no request will be made at this time.

It was discussed about what the EDA’s future plans are for the industrial park after a few possibilities were dissolved due to infrastructure not being developed yet in the park. A few suggestions were made like developing some of it with the funds that the EDA has in the hopes to be more prepared in the future when grant funds could be applied for, the possible sale of the land and invest it into other avenues like main street businesses, a daycare, multifamily housing and or possible main street buildings and also to sell some of the land and look into other land purchases for development.

It was discussed what the EDA’s thoughts were on the 2020 land rent. Currently the EDA was getting $200 / Ac in 2019. It was mentioned that land rent in the area is in that range of $180 - $220 for normal none family deals. The rental agreement will be changed for 2020 to include language that the EDA can opt out of this agreement by a certain date if a business opportunity came up for the industrial park. Vollmer will check with city attorney on this language and add it in the rental agreement. I motion by Bittner and a second by Sik to leave the cash rent @ $200 for the 2020 season. All voted in favor and motion carried.

Next on the agenda was the director terms. Vollmer explained the terms according to the EDA By Laws. There will be terms of 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 years superseded by a six year term. The two city council members will serve their term of office on the Board. If a replacement council member is replaced, that member will serve the remaining term of the previous member. It was suggested that the current EDA board terms be filled by seniority starting at 1 yr thru 5 yrs. Per seniority Wetter – 1 year, Arkell – 2 year, Bents - 3 year, Stavnes – 4 year and Bartholomaus – 5 year.

Officer elections was next. Nominations were as follows – President – Arkell, Vice Chair – Stavnes, Secretary – Bents, Treasurer – City Clerk. Sik moved and Bittner seconded. Motion Carried.

Other Business:

Vollmer mentioned that there were approximately 80 residential replies / applicants and 7 or 8 commercial replies / applicants to the city grant survey and application.

Vollmer gave a daycare update. Not much progress, but is moving forward with some excitement.

With no further business to discuss, Bittner moved and Bents seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m. All voted in favor, motioned carried.

The next EDA meeting is scheduled for Monday September 9, 2019 @ 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Bents, Acting Secretary