



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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March 19, 2018 – Meeting Minutes

A regular meeting of the Freeport Economic Development Authority was called to order at 12:00pm by President Tim Hennen, and members, Rodney Atkinson, Andy Welle, Jim Hemker, Dan Roering, Scott Hoeschen and Tom Middendorf attendance.

Staff in attendance: Secretary Adrianna Hennen

Others in attendance: Steve Eveslage, Shannon Bertram, AJ Olson, and Cody Scherping

Members not in attendance: None

Approval of the Agenda

Middendorf moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Roering. Motion carried 7-0.

Consent Agenda

Hemker moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Welle. Motion carried 7-0.

Old Business

Xcel Energy

Sean Lawler and Mark Osendorf with Xcel Energy were present at the meeting. EDA expressed to them that they were not happy with the newly proposed transmission line as it would still be impacting the industrial park and unsold lots the city was working on selling. Xcel stated that they had preliminary/verbal agreements with Scherping and Whirlwind for the easement. They also stated that if it came down to it they would have to go down the eminent domain option, which they were trying to avoid. EDA told Xcel that the substation should be moved to a better location. Xcel explained that they had told Great River Energy about Freeport's ideas to have the substation moved, but GRE stated they had too much money and planning into the sight to move now. Lawler stated that he would share GRE's contact info with A. Hennen so the City could directly express their concerns with GRE. A. Hennen stated she would like their contact info to hopefully set up a meeting. The EDA stated they would have to review items and will contact GRE before any decisions are made.

Industrial Park

Steve Eveslage, owner of Freeport Trucking, expressed interest in purchasing a lot in the industrial park to relocate his business to. He was uncertain how many acres and the number of buildings he was thinking, but was weighing out his options. EDA stated that he would also have to work with the Sauk River Watershed District regarding storm water run-off and that unfortunately the City had no control over that aspect. They also recommended getting together all of his information and then coming to the EDA with a proposal and plan.

AJ Olson and Rob Hoppe are also interested in purchasing an industrial lot to build a truck shed that Elite Transport would rent from them. The EDA stated the same thing would apply to their building site and also recommended putting a plan together.

Housing - Welle Addition

Shannon Bertram was present and had reviewed the plans the City had recently put together to bring down the cost of the development and to accomplish it in phases if desired. Bertram was appreciative of what the City had put together for him. He expressed that he liked the idea and thought of doing the first phase and hopefully using that money to put towards the second phase. Bertram stated he wasn't looking to make a lot of money off of this, but looked at it more as learning experience and to not lose money on the deal. The EDA stated there could be an option for TIF. Bertram stated he didn't know much about that. A. Hennen stated she would speak with their TIF consultant and see what the options there are. A. Hennen said she would be in contact with Bertram as she received more information.

2018 Appointments

Hoeschen moved to appoint Welle as Vice President, seconded by Middendorf. Motion carried 7-0.

Hoeschen moved to appoint Roering as Treasurer, seconded by Hemker. Motion carried 7-0.

Hemker moved to appoint T. Hennen as President, seconded by Atkinson. Motion carried 7-0.

Adjourn

Roering moved to adjourn, seconded by Welle. Motion carried 7-0.

Tim Hennen, EDA President

Adrianna Hennen, Secretary