

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 17, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m., President Jim Kreft presiding.

Members Present: President Kreft, Noack, Rosenfeld, Sorenson, Vrklan, Councilmember Voight,
Councilmember Borchert arrived late

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Director Krueger, Assistant Director Schultz, Mayor Czech

Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Vrklan, and carried (Kreft abstained) to appoint Jim Kreft as President of the EDA for one year.

Motion by Vrklan, seconded by Voight, and carried (Sorenson abstained) to appoint Larry Sorenson as Vice President of the EDA for one year.

It was the consensus of the EDA to reappoint Mike Noack as the Secretary of the EDA for one year.

Director Krueger suggested reviewing the EDA By-Laws at the next meeting.

Motion by Voight, seconded by Sorenson, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the December 13, 2005 meeting as presented.

It was the consensus of the EDA to approve the Financial Reports for November and December as presented. The Lot Acquisition Loans were reviewed. Director Krueger gave an update on the G.E.I.S. loans.

Asst. Director Schultz had contacted the 3 developments (Meyerson, Witt and Schwartz/Soeffker) about the possibility of renting space on a billboard on Hwy 212 promoting housing in Arlington and also splitting the cost. He stated all 3 were very supportive of the idea and they felt the price was very reasonable. Meyerson was interested in doing a billboard on Hwy 169 as well. Asst. Director Schultz was working with a company to see what billboard space was available along Hwy 212 near Norwood Young America. He stated that the cost for the billboard for 6 months was approximately \$2,000.

Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Vrklan, and passed by unanimous vote to rent a billboard along Hwy 212 near Norwood Young America to help promote housing in Arlington at an approximate cost of \$400-600 per month for 6 months and split the cost with the above 3 developers.

Asst. Director Schultz commented that he had been in contact with the Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership, who will be coming to Arlington to look at the housing environment and give recommendations of what Arlington should do as far as housing. Director Krueger commented that this company helps with doing housing studies and finding grant money. They are funded by the federal government, but are a non-profit agency. He commented that this company has done a lot of work in St. Peter and throughout the state. This company works to get housing in for families in the low to mid income range. An update will be given at the next EDA meeting.

Asst. Director Schultz gave a brief update on the hotel development.

Director Krueger explained that Mel Nagel had contacted him about renting out approximately 5-6 acres of the EDA land in the southwest corner of town (formerly Swenson property). Mr. Nagel had rented this property for his produce/vegetable business in the past from the previous owner and was inquiring about being able to continue renting the land in 2006. Asst. Director Schultz expressed concern about the weeds being kept under control and if this would not happen, what recourse the EDA/City would have. Director Krueger suggested planting a cover crop on this ground. It was the consensus of the EDA to pursue all options before giving Mr. Nagel an answer.

Kreft inquired on the status of the annexation of the former Swenson property now owned by the EDA. Director Krueger explained that it is essentially on hold at this time. He and Mayor Czech are working on trying to have any property that is currently part of a recorded plat, but is outside city limits, annexed.

The 2005 goals were reviewed.

The following were suggested goals for 2006:

- a) Continue with the hotel development
- b) Continue with pursuing housing
- c) Continue marketing Arlington through billboards, website, etc.
- d) Meet with companies (Seneca, Technical Services, Cemstone, etc.) to see what they may be needing/looking for in the future
- e) Business retention and expansion (primary goal)
- f) Trails
- g) City Celebration (Sesquicentennial)
- h) Indoor Swimming Pool – Sponsorships
- i) Resolve G.E.I.S. Loans.

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, February 14, 2006 at 7:00 a.m.

Motion by Voight, seconded by Vrklan, and passed by unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 a.m.

Director David L. Krueger

President Jim Kreft