

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 9, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m. by President Noack

Members Present: President Noack, Feterl, Lundstrom, Rosenfeld, Sorenson

Members Absent: Councilmember Griep, Councilmember Vrklan

Also Present: Director Schultz, Administrator Jaunich, Mayor Kreft

The minutes from the August 14, 2007 meeting were approved as presented.

The financial reports for August and September were reviewed.

Director Schultz commented that he has tried to contact Technical Services on their proposed expansion, but has had no luck. They have not returned his phone calls or emails.

Discussion was held on the various proposed annexation areas, which included the area in the southwest corner of the city and Highland View Addition that is just north of city limits. Adm. Jaunich explained that some of the residents (Highland View Addition) have expressed interest in annexation, but have concerns about the proposed costs associated with it (water, sewer, street). Noack commented that the EDA and the High Island Creek Development should move forward with annexation of the area in the southwest corner.

Dir. Schultz commented that he had been in contact with the representative from the Choice Hotels that he has been dealing with. He was told that Choice Hotels is still interested; they are just not in any real hurry. Some discussion was held on whether or not a local investor should be sought out to possibly get the process started. Feterl expressed his feelings that a hotel is very much needed.

Dir. Schultz gave an update on the Small Cities Development Grant. It was noted that Arlington was allowed 7 housing applications, which 5 applications were submitted and being considered; and allowed 6 commercial applications, which 4 applications were submitted and being considered. Schultz explained that he is currently trying to recruit businesses within the target area to apply for the 2 open slots. However if there is no interest, he can go outside the target area, which he is aware of at least 3 businesses that are interested. Schultz commented that Arlington and Gaylord are fairly matched as far as number of interested applicants for the SCDG program.

Noack commented that the Historical Society will be completing the restoration of the old fire hall this year.

Dir. Schultz commented that a question was asked at a previous meeting about the EDA's meeting schedule. He stated that he had reviewed the Bylaws and found that there is no specified number of meetings that must be held within a year.

Noack questioned if there was anything planned for either the Joint Trail System or the Sportsman's Park (camping area or trails). Schultz commented that he was unaware of anything for the

Sportsman's Park. Mayor Kreft explained that the parks will be discussed as part of the Comprehensive Plan in the next year. Schultz commented that during the budget meetings for 2008, the Parks Committee eliminated the \$7,000 support money (engineering fees) for the county-wide trail system. Schultz commented that trails (in general) are a viable and worth while project to pursue, but their needs to be much more community interest and involvement.

Dir. Schultz commented that the G.E.I.S. building is scheduled to be sold by auction in the next week. He commented that Mayor Kreft, Adm. Jaunich, Mike Vrklan, and Building Inspector Haslip toured the building with the idea of possibly expanding the Library, but determined that remodeling costs would be too prohibitive. Mayor Kreft commented that the Library was exploring other options. Concern was expressed about preserving the City's interest (Revolving Loan) in the building. Mayor Kreft commented briefly on what the Council's strategy was with regards to the building. Various suggestions were made on how the Council should proceed in this matter.

Motion by Feterl, seconded by Sorenson, and passed by unanimous vote to recommend to the Council to authorize the EDA to purchase the G.E.I.S. property if the bid is not close enough to the amount set by the Council.

Sorenson asked for an update on the SMC situation. He stated that he has been hearing a lot of rumors and would like to know what are truths and/or fiction. Mayor Kreft gave an update.

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at 7:00 a.m. at the Technology Conference Center.

Noack adjourned the meeting.

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Director Dennis P. Schultz

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President Mike Noack