



**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MEETING AGENDA
Tuesday, January 28, 2014
6:00 P.M.
Council Chambers**

1. Call to Order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Oath of Office: Larry Sorenson.
4. Approval of Agenda.
5. Election of Officers.
6. Approval of Minutes.
 - A. November 26, 2013
 - B. December 19, 2013
7. Approval of Financial Reports.
 - A. November 2013
 - B. December 2013
8. Old Business.
 - A. MnDOT Landscape Partnership Program
 - B. Project Updates
9. New Business.
 - A. Donation to Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation
10. Board Announcements.
11. Adjourn



**MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 28, 2014 @ 6:00 PM**

The meeting was called to order by President Lundstrom at 6:00 pm.

Members Present: Kloeckl, President Lundstrom, Thomes, Councilmember Nuesse, Councilmember Ruehling

Member Absent: Bergersen, Sorenson

Also Present: Director Smith-Strack

Motion by Ruehling, seconded by Thomes, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the agenda as presented.

Nominations and election of Officers were held.

Motion by Thomes, seconded by Ruehling, and passed by unanimous vote to nominate the following as EDA officers (same as last year): Mark Lundstrom as President, Richard Thomes as Vice President, Jennifer Nuesse as Treasurer and EDA Director Cynthia Smith-Strack as Secretary/Assistant Treasurer.

Motion by Thomes, seconded by Kloeckl, and passed by unanimous vote to re-elect the following EDA officers: Mark Lundstrom as President, Richard Thomes as Vice President, Jennifer Nuesse as Treasurer and EDA Director Cynthia Smith-Strack as Secretary/Assistant Treasurer.

Motion by Thomes, seconded by Nuesse, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the November 26th and December 19th meetings as presented.

The November and December Financial Reports were reviewed.

Motion by Thomes, seconded by Ruehling, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the November and December Financial Reports as presented.

Dir. Smith-Strack provided an update on the MnDOT Landscaping Program. She stated that she and MnDOT Landscape Architect Dan Gullickson had walked the various areas proposed for landscaping along Hwy 5. It was determined that only one location qualified for the MnDOT program, which was the area adjacent to the southern entry sign. Smith-Strack commented that under the program, MnDOT would provide the materials free, but the City/EDA would have to find volunteers to install and maintain the area. She commented that MnDOT did not oppose the other proposed landscaping projects (trees in boulevard between Alden and Baker, or landscaping in front of the Community Center/sign, or landscape around northern entry sign), as they could still be done, but would be at the City's expense. It was noted that the Community Center Committee was currently looking at beautification ideas; and the proposed landscaping project could be integrated with that. Smith-Strack commented that the EDA might have some funds it could put towards that effort.

Motion by Kloeckl, seconded by Ruehling, and passed by unanimous vote to participate in the MnDOT Landscape Partnership Program and accept the planting sketch/design as presented

Smith-Strack commented that due to weather conditions in December the BRE site visit with Cemstone had been postponed and rescheduled for February.

Smith-Strack stated that Seneca Foods had submitted an alternate proposed alignment for a full intersection with Hwy 5, which included moving it to the section line immediately south of the silage pit. They have a desire to keep the gravel road open and requested to have a right in/out access at the current intersection. The City Engineer and MnDOT were reviewing the proposal. Smith-Strack commented that until access to the EDA property can be determined, development was on hold. She stated that money had been budgeted for platting the property this year and it is then hopeful to include installation of utilities as part of the 2015 Street Improvement Project.

Smith-Strack commented that she had been contacted by a national site selector seeking information on the two commercial lots owned by the Lynch family next to the carwash. She stated that they would not divulge who the prospect was, but stated it would be a good fit for the area, access from Marion Drive would not be a problem, and the business would be retail in nature. She put them in touch with the property owner.

Smith-Strack commented that she had prepared information for a consultant conducting Phase I environmental on the dollar general store property.

Smith-Strack informed the EDA that the mill/overlay project for Main Street and County Road 17 is scheduled for this summer; and is only expected to last three days. She stated that the variance for angle parking (non-compliant with DOT standards) in the downtown was re-issued; however at the time of total reconstruction parking standards will have to be brought into compliance with DOT standards. Thomes commented that years ago when the road was being reconstructed, angle parking was not going to be allowed; but a group of business people went to the Legislature and MnDOT (several times) and spoke on Arlington's behalf and obtained the variance for the angle parking.

Smith-Strack commented that one of the mayor's goals for this year was to update the Comprehensive Plan. She has begun this process by updating the demographic section (from 2007 to 2010). She stated that in her research she has found that Arlington has grown (approximately 16%), but the County has decreased (approximately 6%). Discussion was held on the demographic information she was obtaining.

Thomes gave an update on SEDCO. He stated that Mark Erickson was the new Chair of SEDCO. It was noted that a special meeting was scheduled for February to discuss the RS Fiber project, all cities/councils, mayors, commissioners and townships will be invited. Thomes shared the information he had been given about the RS Fiber project.

Motion by Thomes, seconded by Ruehling, and passed by unanimous vote to contribute \$500 to the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation.

Motion by Nuesse, seconded by Kloeckl, and passed by unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 pm.

President Mark Lundstrom

Director Cynthia Smith-Strack