

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MAY 15, 2012**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Jurchen, Cindy Rieck, and Tommy Woog

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ed Larsen, Patrick Smith

ALSO PRESENT: Sandy Peine, City Clerk; Sheila Haverkamp, BLAEDC; Jenna Crawford, Chamber of Commerce

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Jurchen at 8:00 a.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

TOMMY WOOG MOVED TO APPROVE THE APRIL 17, 2012 EDC MINUTES. CINDY RIECK SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

3. Business Park Lot Discussion

4. Small Business Subsidy Policy

5. WAC/SAC – Proposal from Tim Houle

The EDC discussed agenda items 3, 4, and 5 simultaneously.

The City Clerk and Sheila Haverkamp gave an update on a company who has requested to purchase property in the City's business park. The Clerk informed the EDC that the business owner has asked what incentives the City has to offer to his business. The EDC indicated that this is the reason that a small business incentive program is necessary for the City as it is better to be prepared than to have to react. The EDC discussed possible business incentive opportunities such as City fees which could be forgiven, financed etc. The EDC felt that there should be different incentives for specific geographical areas such as the Business Park versus the downtown are in order to drive growth in the specific areas.

The EDC discussed the need for a rate study and SAC/WAC policy which would include basing usage charges on equivalent residential units (ERU). The EDC noted that the current rates are unfair as the residential users are subsidizing large water users. The EDC members felt it would be best to draft a letter to the Council explaining the importance and urgency of the need for a WAC/SAC policy or ordinance based on an ERU.

The EDC indicated that they would work on the following items in the following order:

- SAC/WAC Policy and/or Ordinance to include ERU's – Draft letter to Council
- Work with the Business Park prospect immediately
- Continue with small business subsidy policy
- Work on incentives for property owners in the Business Park to split the lots

6. BLAEDC Update

Update by Sheila Haverkamp on the Executive Program. \

7. Chamber Update

Update by Jenna Crawford.

June 5th TDS – July or August – Northern Tool, Brandon Anderson, Lonesome Cottage –

8. June 9th Agenda Items

- Small business subsidy plan
- Letter to Council on SAC/WAC
- Continue discussion on Business Park lot prospect

9. Other Business

The Clerk noted that TDS has requested to meet with the EDC on June 5th. The EDC indicated it would like to continue the practice to meet with businesses in the area. Two future businesses they would like to meet with are Lonesome Cottage and Northern Tool.

10. Adjournment

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, VICE CHAIR JURCHEN
ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 9:10 A.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Peine
City Clerk

