

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MARCH 19, 2013
MEETING MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Jurchen, Cindy Roggenkamp, Barb Merritt, Cindy Rieck, and Tommy Woog

ALSO PRESENT: Sandy Peine, City Clerk; Sheila Haverkamp and Chris Robinson, BLAEDC; Dawn Bittner, Zoning Administrator; and Mayor Adams

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jurchen at 8:01 a.m.

2. Approval of 2-19-2013 EDC Minutes

COMMISSIONER ROGGENKAMP MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2/19/2013 EDC MINUTES. COMMISSIONER MERRIT SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

4. Wellhead Protection Plan - Update

Dawn Bittner updated the EDC on the Wellhead Protection Plan

3. Urban and Rural Taxing Districts

Mark Jurchen reviewed the past history on the two tax rates in the City which was a result of the friendly annexation between the City of Pequot Lakes and the Township of Sibley in 2002. Dawn Bittner reviewed the City map which showed the boundary of the prior Sibley Township. Discussion was held regarding the number of plats in the rural section and the fact that there is a statutory requirement that plats are incorporated into the urban area.

Mark Jurchen noted that the urban residential city tax rate is double that of the rural city tax rate. The EDC stated that the question that needs to be answered is whether there is a substantial reason to continue the ratio differential. Discussion was held regarding the services provided in each area. It was suggested that everyone benefits from all the services provided. Tommy Woog suggested showing how property taxes will be affected if the two tax rates are the same. The EDC suggested hiring Springsted to provide the information.

TOMMY WOOG MOVED TO RECOMMEND THAT THE CITY REQUEST SPRINGSTED TO PROVIDE AN ANALYSIS AND STUDY OF THE URBAN RURAL TAXING DISTRICTS IN THE CITY AND TO SHOW HOW COMBINING THE DISTRICTS INTO ONE WOULD AFFECT THE CITY TAX RATE ON A ONE TO ONE RATIO AND

FURTHER THAT THE COST NOT EXCEED \$4,000. CINDY ROGGENKAMP SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

5. BLAEDC

Sheila Haverkamp gave an update on BLAEDC's annual meeting and on the First and second Executive Chats which was held in Pequot Lakes and Crosby. She also noted some projects that BLAEDC is working on in the Brainerd Lakes Area.

6. Chamber Update

Mark gave an update on Chamber events.

7. April Agenda Items

- Urban and Rural Taxing Districts
- The need for higher internet speeds – Possibly scheduling a meeting with TDS to talk about this issue.
- Highway 371 – Timing of project
- Business Subsidy Policy

8. Other Business

Mayor Adams noted that the Mayor's group sent letters of support for the Highway 371 project. She noted that the letters were sent to the local legislators.

Mayor Adams also informed the EDC that the DNR has offered to allow the City to purchase the north side of Trailside Park.

9. Adjournment

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, VICE CHAIR JURCHEN ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 9:00 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Peine
City Clerk