



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

CITY OF WELLS, MINNESOTA

MINUTES

Regular Session of the Economic Development Authority City of Wells, Minnesota

CALL TO ORDER:

The Wells Economic Development Authority (WEDA) convened in regular session on March 16, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. in the Wells City Hall conference room. President Brad Heggen called the meeting to order with the following members and employees present: Vice President Kim Sorenson, Secretary/Treasurer Darin Magnuson, Commissioner Jim Heckman, Commissioner Bruce Mandler, and Commissioner Shannon Savick. Employees present: Community Development Director Austin Bleess.

NEW BUSINESS:

President Heggen brought the topic of the Revolving Loan Fund Application from Ryan and Jon Feist to the table. Discussion held. Jon Feist answered questions from the Commissioners. Commissioner Heckman asked on the market value of the building. Commissioner Heckman presented a letter to the board disclosing the relationship between Paragon Bank and the applicant, which is included with the minutes as Attachment I. The Commission asked for more financials from the applicants, along with bid estimates for doing the work. The applicant will gather that information for the next meeting.

President Heggen brought the topic of the Conflict of interest memo to the table. The memo stated that there is no conflict of interest neither Commissioners Jim Heckman nor Kim Sorenson have a conflict of interest with the Singleteary Food Solutions project. Letters from Jim Heckman disclosing relationships between Paragon Bank and Singleteary Food Solutions, which is Attachment II and Attachment III to these minutes, and a letter disclosing a relationship between Paragon Bank and Wild Cats Inc., which is Attachment IV, were reviewed. Discussion held.

Discussion held on recent news article in the Faribault County Register. Discussion held. Guest Tony Acosta expressed his concerns with disclosures and why he wrote the article. Guest Zoa Heckman expressed her disappointment in the recent article. President Heggen expressed his concern of the article and his hope we can move forward.

President Heggen brought the topic of the Go Minnesota invite to the table. The invitation was reviewed. Board members may attend on their own. Discussion held.

Director Bless brought the topic of the Frundt and Johnson building to the table. He informed the Commission that he will have another memo to Council asking them to list the building for sale with an asking price to be included with the memo. Discussion held.

Director Bless thanked the Commissioners for sending him to the 2010 Day At The Capitol. Discussion held.

Director Bless asked to have clarification from the meeting minutes from May 19, 2009 meeting. In those minutes it references a meeting from April 27, 2009 which is the only placed that meeting is mentioned. President Heggen said that reference is a typo and the date should read April 29, 2009 instead. Commissioner Savick motioned to file a memo with the minutes stating the error of the May 19, 2009 minutes to clarify the matter. Commissioner Sorenson seconded. President Heggen took a roll call with Commissioners Heckman, Heggen, Magnuson, Mandler, Savick and Sorenson voting aye. **Motion carried.**

Commissioner Mandler asked if the guests could introduce themselves at the meetings. Tony Acosta formally introduced himself to the board.

Commissioner Sorenson brought up the idea of having a Grand Opening for Singleteary Food Solutions. Director Bless will work with DEED and Governor Pawlenty's Office to see if the Commissioner of DEED and Governor Pawlenty could attend such an event.

CONSENT ITEMS:

The minutes of the regularly scheduled WEDA meeting held on February 16, 2010 were reviewed. Discussion held. President Heggen called for a motion. Commissioner Sorenson made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Commissioner Magnuson seconded the motion. President Heggen took a roll call with Commissioners Heckman, Heggen, Magnuson, Mandler, Savick and Sorenson voting aye. **Motion carried.**

Director Bless presented the financial reports. Discussion held. Commissioner Heckman asked if Director Bless could contact Region 9 about the Joe's Lawn and Sports loan. Commissioner Magnuson motioned to approve the financial report and pay the bills. Commissioner Savick seconded. President Heggen took a roll call with Commissioners Heckman, Heggen, Magnuson, Mandler, Savick and Sorenson voting aye. **Motion carried.**

OLD BUSINESS:

President Heggen brought the issue of the Singleteary Food Solutions project to the floor. Director Bless informed the Commissioners we are now waiting for the closing date to be scheduled. Discussion held.

President Heggen brought the issue of advertising WEDA programs to the floor. Discussion held.

President Heggen brought the issue of Linder Enterprises to the table. Director Bleess informed the Commissioners there is nothing new, but we should hear in April about their plans to continue to rent the incubator building. Discussion held.

President Heggen brought the issue of the Schrader Enterprises/South Industrial Park to the table. Plans for the industrial park were reviewed. A force main option was discussed as well. Director Bleess informed the Commissioners the Estimated Market Value is \$2,088 per acre. Commissioner Sorenson made a motion to sell Schrader Enterprises 3 acres at \$2,088 per acre with Schrader Enterprises to be responsible for installing all infrastructure including a force main and water. Commissioner Magnuson seconded. President Heggen took a roll call with Commissioners Heckman, Heggen, Magnuson, Mandler, Savick and Sorenson voting aye. **Motion carried.**

President Heggen brought the issue of the Community Development Director's salary to the table. Discussion held. Commissioner Heckman asked if there were numbers on how much the EDA makes in a year for operating expenses. Director Bleess will gather all of this information. Commissioner Heckman motioned to table the issue until next meeting. Commissioner Sorenson seconded. President Heggen took a roll call with Commissioners Heckman, Heggen, Magnuson, Mandler, Savick and Sorenson voting aye. **Motion carried.**

President Heggen opened the meeting to public comment. There being no public comment, President Heggen closed the meeting to public comment.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Commissioner Magnuson and seconded by Commissioner Sorenson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted:

Darin Magnuson
Secretary/Treasurer

Austin Bleess
Community Development Director