



Economic Development Authority Special Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 15, 2015, 5:00 pm
Wells Community Center

The Wells Economic Development Authority (EDA) convened on December 15, 2015 at 5:00 pm in the Council Chamber. President Heggen called the meeting to order with the following members present: Jim Heckman, John Herman, Kim Sorenson, Whitney Harig and Sue Nasinec. Absent: Bruce Mandler.

AGENDA

The agenda for the December 15, 2015 meeting was reviewed. Motion by Harig and second by Nasinec to approve with the addition of public comment. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

BUSINESS

Wells Economic Development Authority 2016- President Heggen stated that he feels an Advisory Board such as the EDA provides expertise and continuity without political slant. Heggen also stated that he feels the City Council as an EDA Board would eliminate the advisory element and that a complete overhaul of the EDA could prove to be disastrous. In addition, Heggen stated that change is good but in moderation.

Herman stated that in order to have the Council serve as an EDA there has to be a public hearing and that at this point nothing has been decided. Herman also stated that he is in favor of leaving the EDA as is, with those that want to be reappointed. In addition, Herman stated that goals need to be set for 2016 so that decisions and progress are made.

Harig stated that she has felt very frustrated with the progress of the current EDA Board over the last year and that is why she is open to new ideas.

Heggen stated that the EDA has been able to do very little for the last two years or since the Community Development position was eliminated because he feels nothing gets done between meetings. Heggen also stated that as owners of the property, the EDA needs to take a stance on the NIP before any more money is spent on a project that cannot be completed.

Harig stated that she feels the Board should follow through with the TED grant since money has already been spent on the application.

Motion by Heckman and second by Sorenson to stop development of the North Industrial Park and research the sale of the property to a private party. Motion carried.

Heckman stated that going forward, in whatever capacity, the EDA needs a catalyst who is dedicated to the community.

Motion by Heckman and second by Nasinec to request the City Council offer Megan Boeck the position of staff liaison and primary contact for the EDA. Motion carried.

Heggen questioned the date of the next EDA meeting. It was the consensus of the Board that the next EDA meeting be scheduled for January 19, 2015 at 5:00 pm unless otherwise stipulated by the City Council.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Herman and second by Nasinec to adjourn at 6:49 pm. Motion carried.

Jim Heckman, Secretary/Treasurer

Megan Boeck, Deputy City Clerk