

OLIVIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES

Wednesday, October 11, 2023

CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

The regular meeting of the EDA was called to order by Chair Baumgartner at 12:03pm. at the Olivia City Council Chambers.

Members Present: Cathy Baumgartner, George Ebbers, Michelle Hanson, Jon Hawkinson.

Members Present Via Zoom: Tom McDonnell (from a public park located at 151 South Warner Road Wayne, PA 19087).

Members Absent: Chuck Brown

Staff Present: Elizabeth Torkelson, City Administrator; Susie Lang, EDA Director; Marissa Castillo, Planning and Zoning Administrator.

Others Present: Jasmine Frias, Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership; Joe Wittman, Wittman Landscaping.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/APPROVAL

Motion by Hawkinson, second by Ebbers: to approve the updated agenda. Staff added a Tree Request to the agenda and informed the board that Joe Wittman would be joining the conversation. A roll call was taken with Baumgartner, Ebbers, Hanson, Hawkinson and McDonnell all voting yes. Motion passes unanimously.

MINUTES OF THE September 18, 2023 MEETING

Motion by Ebbers, second by Hawkinson: to approve the regular meeting minutes of September 18, 2023 as written. A roll call was taken with Baumgartner, Ebbers, Hanson, Hawkinson and McDonnell all voting yes. Motion passes unanimously.

Housing Work Session

Jasmine Frias provided an overview of the Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership (SWMHP) and their recent outreach efforts associated with the county's housing plan. Frias shared with the board the program that is in the development phase at the county for two- and three-bedroom homes to possibly be built in the ten Renville County communities. Additionally, she reminded the board of the housing efforts at the federal level that will bring \$40 million dollars to small towns to complete housing developments. The formal announcement is anticipated to come in November of 2023 with application due sometime in January of 2024.

Joe Wittman entered the meeting at 12:35pm.

Tom McDonnell and Jasmine Frias exited the meeting at 12:50pm.

Tree Request

Joe Wittman asked if the board would be willing to sell up to 17 trees from the EDA owned property by Thrifty White. Wittman explained that he has the equipment and expertise to move the trees and restore the land. There was agreement between the board and Wittman for \$200 per tree. Lang was instructed to work with Kennedy and Graven to draft a purchase agreement and take action at the next EDA meeting.

UPDATES AND RELATED ITEMS

Torkelson and Lang shared that they continue to work with Chrysler on renegotiating the sale of the building and lots.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ebbers second by Hawkinson: to adjourn the meeting at 12:57pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by,
Susie Lang