



**Economic Development Authority
Regular Meeting Minutes**

**December 13, 2022
3:00 PM**

I. Call to Order

Chair Dew called the meeting to order at 3:02 PM

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Members Present: Robert Dew, Chair, Tom Schifsky, Archie Vickerman, Terry Furlong, Mayor/Council Representative, Tim Cole, Council Representative
Members Absent: Kevin Fuller, Vice Chair, Don Jensen, Treasurer, Brett Garry, Business Association Representative
Staff Present: Brandy Howe, Community Development Director, Chris Cherne, Administrative Assistant

IV. Adopt Agenda

Chair Dew asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. M/Furlong, S/Cole.
Motion carried 5-0.

V. Approval of Minutes of the November 15, 2022 Meeting

Chair Dew asked for a motion to approve the November 15th meeting minutes. M/Vickerman, S/Schifsky. Motion carried 5-0.

VI. Meeting Open to the Public

No public comments.

VII. Authority Business & Action Item

None.

VIII. Old Business

A. Community Marketing Video

Mayor Furlong commented that there is nothing new to update. The question of whether to move forward with funding for the video lies with the City at this time.

B. River of God Church

Mayor Furlong noted there was nothing new to report.

C. FKA: Ground Round Site

Furlong reported that it appears that some work has been done on the site recently to clean it up, including some tree removals.



D. Target Vacant Lot Clean-Up

Chair Dew reported that there is nothing new to report and that this item can be removed from future agendas.

E. McKnight Blvd Left Turn Lane

Howe reported that staff responded to the Target representative's questions regarding timing of construction and project costs. The ball is now in their court in terms of next steps. Chair Dew indicated that the EDA should continue to engage with potential partners on this project.

IX. Executive Director Report

No report.

X. Treasurer's Report

No report.

XI. Chair Report

Chair Dew requested that those members with terms ending should determine if they want to be reappointed. Vickerman does not wish to see reappointment. Schifsky indicated that he does not wish to be reappointed, but he is willing to stay on until February 2023 to allow for some time to find replacement.

XII. Mayor Report

Mayor Furlong thanked those members whose terms are completed in December. He noted the EDA has done a lot for the community—it's seeing a renaissance. He also reported that the letters to Santa mailbox was reported on local news and potentially had national reach. This is positive marketing for the City.

XIII. Reports from EDA Members

Council Representative Cole reported that the City's working group on the Community Center held a meeting last week. The group identified potential users of the center from profits, nonprofits, school organizations, etc. The City has also engaged a lobbyist to aid the City in seeking funding from state representatives. Mayor Furlong added that in addition to the Community Center, two other projects will be presented by the lobbyist for state and federal funding: Highway 36/Century Avenue interchange and a trail connection at Silver Lake.

XIV. Reports from Staff

Howe reported that staff prepared a database to track grant opportunities and asked for clarification on how to respond to potential funding opportunities. Chair Dew directed staff to provide a recommendation to the EDA on possible grants with projects as well as a determination of whether the application can be completed in house or not. There was some brief discussion on an MPCA grant to fund Level 2 electric vehicle charging stations and the potential to install them at several City parking lots. Howe will further investigate this grant opportunity.

Howe reported that the city's TIF consultant is reviewing J.B. Vang's proforma for the



project proposed at Margaret and Seppala. The MOU with J.B. Vang is set to expire at the end of January, at which time the EDA can consider whether to continue to work with J.B. Vang to develop the site.

Howe reported that the Lillie Building development agreement has been prepared, reviewed by the City Attorney and sent to the developer for review. Once signed, it'll be added to a City Council agenda for approval.

XV. Closed Session – Possible purchase of 2564 7th Avenue

Chair Dew ended the regular EDA meeting and opened the Closed Session at 3:42 p.m.

Chair Dew adjourned the Closed Session at 3:57 p.m.

XVI. Adjournment

Chair Dew requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. M/Vickerman and S/Schifsky to adjourn the meeting at 3:57 p.m.

Motion carried 5-0.

Next EDA meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.