



**Approved**

**REGULAR MEETING  
Minutes  
05.14.24**

**Absent:**  
**Guests:**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

President Kyle Peterson called the meeting to order. Commissioners in attendance, Marie Rivers, Marlys Dunne, Dallas Fisher, Jason Houle, Jeremy Dresel, MaryJo Wiatrak and Nancy Hoffman from the County EDA/HRA was present.

Staff in attendance was City Administrator John Pechman.

**2. APPROVE AGENDA: May 14, 2024.**

President Peterson asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Commissioner Rivers made a motion to approve the agenda; Commissioner Dresel seconded; all ayes; motion passed.

**3. APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA: April 9 and April 23, 2024.**

President Peterson asked if there were any corrections or additions to the April 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> minutes. Rivers made a motion to approve the consent agenda; Commissioner Dresel seconded; all ayes; motion passed.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**5. COMMUNICATIONS, REPORTS AND PETITIONS**

**5a. City Council Liaison Report**

The council met on April 23<sup>rd</sup> for a regular meeting. Rivers gave an update on the meeting; fire chief Zach Reed spoke about new radios that need to be purchased and wanted to use the public safety funding of \$246,000. This funding is to be used for police and fire needs and should be split between the two departments. John Chouinard had requested to be on the agenda, but never showed up to the meeting. The annual financial report from Abdo, Rick & Myers, LLP was presented to the council for approval. The final plat for the Kichisaga industrial site was approved. There was a rezone application submitted requesting a rezone to develop the land for R-3 Medium Density Residential single-family residential the property is currently zoned Light Industrial. Council denied this request. The request was for the land across from the Lake Martha Overlook

Plat. Justin Kral was allowed a peddler's permit for his boat rental business at the end of Aldrid Ave. MaryJo Wiatrak was approved to her appointment to the EDA.

### **5b. County & Neighboring City EDA Updates**

Hoffman stated that the county held the economic development summit with the city administrators to kick off the housing study, and in July they will hold a stakeholder round table to hear from the business and developers. There is still funding available for childcare both in home daycare and centers.

Dunne attended the Lindstrom EDA meeting this morning and they approved a \$1000.00 donation to Wildcat Woods Disc golf. The city of North Branch is in the process of conducting a rental study. June 6<sup>th</sup> is the Public Hearing for the county zoning and ordinance changes. County Commissioners started district tours, last weekend district 1 was completed. She will get information for anyone interested when the district 3 tour is to be scheduled.

## **6. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

## **7. GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **7a. Monthly Financial Report.**

Finance Director Gemuenden submitted the monthly financial report. Taxes were paid on the industrial park land the EDA owns.

## **8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **8a. 2024 Goals & Updates**

#### **1. Highway 8 Project**

The county engineer would like an answer from council regarding the underpass or bridge at Jennifer Ct. this decision will be at the next city council meeting for a vote. Dunne asked about the design along the Highway 8 corridor.

#### **2. Land Development Activity**

Pechman has had several conversations with Paul from LEI regarding an access road, he is waiting on some elevations. They want a service road off Karmel, but this will change all the drainage plans. LEI asked to have their engineers look at the plans. Dunne let the commission know she did take a tour of LEI last week, and spoke with Matt, she learned a lot about the business and what they do and hopes that one of the lots will work out for them.

#### **3. Fund 51 Update**

Last payment was received. The money is dedicated to go to the cul-de-sac in the industrial park, Pechman did receive the grant money for the project so it will start as soon as possible. Rivers asked about the extension of the bike path into Ojiketa Park. Pechman is waiting for a discrepancy in surveys. The Park Commission agreed to use trail funds for the project.

## **9. NEW BUSINES**

**9a. MaryJo Wiatrak-Oath of Office**

MaryJo Wiatrak was sworn in as a commissioner of the EDA and signed the Oath of Office.

**10. ADJOURN**

Commissioner Rivers made a motion to adjourn; Commissioner Dresel seconded; all ayes; the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alisa Bodell  
Executive Assistant