

**City of Battle Lake
Economic Development Authority
Tuesday, April 4, 2017**

The Battle Lake Economic Development Authority met in regular session on Tuesday, April 4, 2014. President Randy Dorn called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. with Commissioners Jeff Drake, Leigh Shebeck, Don Maslow, Gene Kelm, Sara Boyum and Milt Paulson present. Also present was Val Martin, Clerk/Treasurer/EDA Director/Zoning Officer.

Drake made a motion to approve the agenda. Paulson seconded. MCU Shebeck moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Maslow seconded. MCU Drake moved to approve the financials as presented. Kelm seconded. MCU

Martin presented a written report for the Tri-City Living Group. The annual meeting will be May 4th at 5:00 p.m. at Thumper Pond with Ben Winchester speaking.

Martin reached out to Big Sky Resort to start a possible conversation on shared employees. They try to encourage their employees to stay in Big Sky over the summer so don't want to encourage them to go elsewhere. They would be willing to put up posters advertising summer jobs. Maybe we need to reach out to colleges to post job openings? Sara has a connection to a couple of the colleges and she will reach out to that person and see how we can draw from the college crowds in the summer. Jeff stated that the school is always willing to post jobs for teenagers. Before Memorial Day and after Labor Day is very difficult to have enough staff. There doesn't seem to be an easy answer but the EDA will do what we can to help the businesses promote their job openings.

Other Updates:

- Carlson-Highland is now called Carlson and Co. They will be moving to the Cline building and their current building is now for sale or lease. It might be a good fit for MacKenzie Barry for an Edward Jones office.
- The childcare center is moving forward with their capital campaign. They have reached the halfway point for donations. Tiny Tikes is still on board to lease the building. The City is working on helping with TIF or abatement. Martin said that there will be a discussion at the joint EDA/Council work session on April 25th.
- Randy asked if NBL has mentioned fireworks for Wenonga Days. No one has heard any discussion.
- Martin gave an update on what happened at the MnDOT hearing on March 28th. The City will continue working with MnDOT on regulations.
- Jeff said Kindergarten Round-Up was held and it looks like there are 23 students coming this fall. They were hoping for 28 to 30.
- Paulson apartments will be ready in June. There are still apartments available to rent.

Council agenda was reviewed.

April 25th - Economic Development Informational Session with Council, EDA, and Businesses at 7:00 p.m. Battle Lake City Hall - Facilitated by Dan Malmstrom. Other speakers – Traci Ryan & Greg Wagner

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 a.m.

Next meeting will be held Thursday, May 4, 2017 at 7:00 a.m.

Valerie J. Martin, Clerk/Treasurer/EDA Director/Zoning Officer