

City of Battle Lake
Economic Development Authority
Thursday, July 6, 2017

The Battle Lake Economic Development Authority met in regular session on Thursday, July 6, 2017. President Randy Dorn called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. with Commissioners Jeff Drake, Don Maslow, Leigh Shebeck, Gene Kelm, and Milt Paulson present. Absent were Sara Boyum and Leigh Shebeck. Also present was Val Martin, Clerk/Treasurer/EDA Director/Zoning Officer.

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

Updates:

- Tri-City Living minutes were reviewed.
- Hatchery Row project was discussed – the committee continues to work on this.
- An update for the Business Retention and Expansion program was given by members of the team. The team will be finalizing a list of task force members. A task force orientation will be held August 23rd from 6 to 8 p.m. Martin, Shebeck, Drake and Kelm currently serve on the leadership team. Both Dorn and Maslow agreed to serve on the task force.
- Council minutes and agendas were reviewed.
- Continued discussion on information kiosks. Martin presented some possible designs. The group decided that the first design shown was the most attractive and to add some brochure holders to the structure. Metal could be a consideration. The commissioners felt the two best locations were the area south of the Review (Val will contact Ed) and in the art alley. Val will contact Brad from the Boathouse to see if he would allow us to mount it to the side of his business. Val will also contact Dan Feda and present him with the design idea to see if there is a Boy Scout that is willing to build this for his Eagle Scout project.
- There was an Open House for the Battle Lake to Ashby Trail Master Plan on June 26th. It was well attended with positive comments provided. The next open house will be in Ashby on August 28th. The information from the open houses will give the committee and the consulting group opinions on the best route for the trail along with providing information such as amenities.

Val received a response from Chuck Johnson from Perham EDA regarding a possible meeting with their retailers on how to deal with the Amazon effect. They are considering bringing a consultant in to work with the retailers. It would probably be a 2-day workshop to be held this fall. He will keep us posted.

Council is still working with MnDOT on the permit needed for the sidewalk amenity zone. No word from them on an update recently.

Wenonga Days will be coming up July 21st-23rd.

A proposed TIF project for Paul Boyum was reviewed. The owner wants to get building as soon as possible. The Battle Lake City Council set a hearing for the TIF project to be held on July 25, 2017. Paul is going to be building on Memory Lane between the West Tool Building and the Battle Lake Oasis. His plan includes a production area to construct his metal artwork and a retail space in front of the building for sales of his product. Both Paul and his son work full-time with the business and they plan to hire one full-time and one part-time person after the building is constructed. Paulson made a motion to support the Boyum TIF project. Dorn seconded. MCU

Paulson apartments are soon complete with people moving in already. One of the Krenz apartments in complete and someone has moved into that. The 2nd one should be done in the next month or so.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 a.m. Next meeting will be held Thursday, August 3, 2017 at 7:00 a.m.