

**City of Battle Lake
Economic Development Authority
Thursday, June 4, 2020**

The Battle Lake Economic Development Authority met in regular session on Thursday, June 4, 2020 with some members participating via video conference pursuant to Minn. Stat. 13D.021 due to a health pandemic. Randy Dorn called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. with Commissioners Darren Kern, Steve Young, Leigh Shebeck and Don Maslow present. Absent were Josie Schmidt and Gene Kelm. Also present was Val Martin, Clerk/Treasurer/EDA Director/Zoning Officer.

Maslow made a motion to approve the agenda. Dorn seconded. With a roll call vote, those in favor included Dorn, Kern, Young, Maslow and Shebeck with no member voting no. MCU

Shebeck made a motion to approve the minutes. Maslow seconded. With a roll call vote, those in favor included Dorn, Kern, Young, Maslow and Shebeck with no member voting no. MCU

Young made a motion to approve the financials. Maslow seconded. With a roll call vote, those in favor included Dorn, Kern, Young, Maslow and Shebeck with no member voting no. MCU

Updates:

COVID-19:

- ***Emergency Fund:*** the committee members and Martin have met a couple of times and put together applications and criteria for distribution of funds. The process and forms ultimately have to be approved by the Community Fund members. Work has been done to spread the word that donations are needed. At this point, we have received a few donations but will continue promoting the program. A form will be included in the City's newsletter and several committee members will be approaching the area churches. The 542 Foundation may have some interest in working with us. Battle Lake Lions will probably be the financial host. The committee will continue to work on the project.

Hatchery Row:

- Still waiting to hear back from the developers. They are working on the plan.

2020 Graduating Seniors:

- Cards and key rings were distributed at graduation from the EDA. A stand was made for the banner and it sits next to the bank on their property. Commissioners agreed that it should stay up for a while. Graduation went as well as can be expected under the circumstances.

Housing – How to move forward:

- A prospective property owner has contacted us regarding a lot in Hidden Meadows and has been connected with Jake Trosdahl to look over options that have been put together because of the EDA's work on housing. Things seem to be moving forward on this. The Hammer housing project just south of Hidden Meadows will start in 2021.

Otter Tail County Community Development Agency

- Minutes were shared
- Martin reported that the CDA has been working on a COVID-19 program to assist local business with a forgivable loan. This will be finalized at the meeting today.
- The County has purchased PPE supplies in bulk and are available to businesses for purchase at the County's cost.

Other Updates/Discussion Items:

- The City Council has approved a Limited Use Permit with MnDOT to allow restaurants to utilize some of the sidewalks for outdoor seating. Dorn commended the Council on getting this done in a timely manner.
- The 2021 Governor's Fishing Opener was discussed. Members wondered how the Governor's process on handling the pandemic will affect this program.
- Young said the housing market is still strong and sales seem to be about the same.
- Summer activities – with Wenonga Days being cancelled, will there be opportunity for some other creative activities? Mayor Kelm has suggested at other meetings that it might be a good year for fireworks and has started the conversation with some of the area clubs.
- Dorn wished Mayor Kelm good luck on his campaign for County Commissioner.

2020 Goals and Priorities – Dorn made a motion to approve. Maslow seconded. With a roll call vote, those in favor included Dorn, Kern, Young, Maslow and Shebeck with no member voting no. MCU

Adjourn at 8:05 a.m.

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