

**City of Battle Lake
Economic Development Authority
Thursday, March 4, 2021**

The Battle Lake Economic Development Authority met in regular session on Thursday March 4, 2021 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 7:15 a.m. with Commissioners Leigh Shebeck, Richard Bullard, and Josie Schmidt present. Also present was Val Martin, Clerk/Treasurer/EDA Director/Zoning Officer.

Shebeck made a motion to approve the agenda. Dorn seconded. MCU

Shebeck made a motion to approve the minutes. Schmidt seconded. MCU

Schmidt made a motion to approve the financials. Shebeck seconded. MCU

COVID-19 – Assistance to Businesses

- Donations to date: \$32,236.21
- Lions \$5,000 Match has been met – \$5,150 received as matching funds.
- Business Applications – Round 1 - \$14,500 will be paid out this week.
- Business Applications – Round 2- due tomorrow
- Deadline for donations – March 31st

Hatchery Row:

- Tax Increment Financing
 - Hearing to be held April 13th with terms of TIF Agreement established prior to the meeting.
- Demolition – Possibly call for bids at the April 13th council meeting.
- Clean Up/Monitoring Wells – an email was shared by Martin from Northland Environmental.

EDA Business Survey & Housing Study

- This is still in the works with results at the April 8th EDA meeting.

The 2020 Year in Review

- Dorn said he was approached by a property owner that received a copy of the year in review and through it was great information.

Governor's Fishing Opener

- Official approval to move forward was received. There are three plans in the works and the situation of the pandemic will dictate which plan will be used. Martin is still working on a plan for "A Taste of Battle Lake" which would be held Friday night, May 14th. She will be holding a zoom meeting with the restaurant owners to discuss further.

Career Page

Dorn had received a request from a business owner for the EDA to do some type of job listings on the City website. Many of them have difficulty finding employees and wanted to explore other ideas. Martin has checked with the County as they are working on this type of project for Otter Tail County. They are purchasing software that downloads job openings from all sites that list them and bring them to one location. She will find out at a later date if they can narrow the information down further for Battle Lake use. The group discussed the time this project could take if it were done outside of working with the County and decided it was best to work with

them rather than trying to recreate something. It would also be a learning curve for business owners as we would provide them information and steps to take to get their jobs listed. Schmidt said that housing is more of a roadblock for her than finding people.

CDA minutes were distributed and reviewed.

The April EDA meeting will be held on April 8th rather than April 1st. This will help provide more time to get back and analyze results from the survey and housing study.

Martin reported that the City Council is working on a grant application from MnDOT for reconstruction of Olaf Avenue and to also pave Memory Lane.

Next meeting is Thursday, April 8, 2021.

Adjourn at 8:05 a.m.

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