

**City of Battle Lake  
Economic Development Authority  
Thursday, September 17, 2024**

The Battle Lake Economic Development Authority met in a regular session on Tuesday, September 17, 2024, at 7:00 a.m. with Rich Bullard, Josie Thomopoulos, Randy Dorn, Rob Nudell, Steve Young, and Majorie Quammen present. Absent was Sean Belmont. Also, present were Val Martin, Clerk/Treasurer/EDA Director/Zoning Officer, and Reba Gilliland representing the Battle Lake Arts Advisory Committee.

Bullard made a motion to approve the agenda. Nudell seconded. MCU  
Nudell made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Young seconded. MCU  
Young made a motion to approve the financials. Quammen seconded. MCU

- Leigh Shebeck sent an email to Martin, Bullard, and Dorn offering to make monthly rounds to the businesses, introduce himself, and ask some questions that the EDA has developed, he would then write up a summary of those discussions and submit it to the EDA. He would do a few businesses a month.

The EDA Commissioners continued working on Goals and priorities:

<b>4. Continued work on a group advertising &amp; marketing campaign.</b>
LIST STEPS NEEDED TO MAKE THIS GOAL HAPPEN: Continue with Breakfast and Brainstorming, consider other events such as extended tree lighting with school choir
WHO WILL GET THIS DONE? Group activity/LACC and EDA
<b>5. Keep the website up to date with information on the EDA.</b>
LIST STEPS NEEDED TO MAKE THIS GOAL HAPPEN: The group reviewed what was currently on the EDA page of the City website and suggested some changes.
WHO WILL GET THIS DONE? Val Martin takes care of this.
<b>6. Assist businesses with staffing needs by working with Otter Tail County's job opening portal.</b>
LIST STEPS NEEDED TO MAKE THIS GOAL HAPPEN: Notifying the businesses that it is available - Ask Sarah Schake to attend one of the EDA meetings.
WHO WILL GET THIS DONE? Val with contact Sarah
<b>7. Provide training opportunities for area businesses.</b>
LIST STEPS NEEDED TO MAKE THIS GOAL HAPPEN: This could be part of the business, retention and expansion goal. We will move it up there. We need to find out more information - what type of training do they want?
WHO WILL GET THIS DONE? This could be done as part of a survey or talking to business owners one on one.

Housing needs to be moved to goals rather than ongoing priorities. The commissioners will continue to work on the goals at future meetings.

The upcoming meeting with the townships on October 15<sup>th</sup> was discussed. Neverbetter will handle breakfast and it will be held at City Hall. Martin will handle the details.

Other Updates:

- Gathering of Airplanes was held on August 31<sup>st</sup>. A great volume of people, but not as many airplanes. They raised over \$13,000. There was a small airplane accident, it was handled well and everyone was ok.
- Breakfast and Brainstorming – tomorrow, September 18<sup>th</sup> at the newly remodeled bank
- October 6<sup>th</sup> – Meet the candidates at the school
- Jack-O-Lantern Jubilee will be October 19<sup>th</sup> at Lakes Vintage
- Next meeting – Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 a.m. Breakfast meeting with townships
- There will not be a November EDA meeting

Adjourn at 8:07 a.m.

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