

Osakis Economic Development Authority
NOTES TAKEN – NO MEETING HELD
Meeting Minutes – May 20, 2024 – 4:00 PM
City Hall – 14 Nokomis Street East

Present: Randy Anderson, Tonya Danielson, Justin Dahlheimer

Absent: Laura Backes, Ryan Peterson, Dan Wessel,

Others Present: Lynnette Swenstad, Rollie Walsh

Meeting called to order by Randy Anderson at 3:58 p.m.

No motions to approve agenda, minutes and treasurers report due to no quorum.

Rollie Walsh: Need to get an updated Purchase Agreement with the correct amount of \$124,000 and a readable map.

Anderson informed Walsh that we can't get the 50 acres that he wants. With the setback it will be about 42 acres with the 1,200 ft setback. Can make it work but not doing anything until the solar ordinance is approved.

Walsh said he was going to write the deal off but if the guy from the solar company is still thinking Walsh will come in with a counter offer.

Anderson – informed Walsh that we want a commitment for the lots – the offer is for the lots only.

Habitat for Humanity: No closing on the Oak St W lot. Issue with the drainage ditch easement.

Marina: No new news. Still working on things.

Engfer Property: There is a tentative purchase agreement for \$15,000 per acre. The city would only want the land that is usable. PA was sent to the city attorney to review.

The campground was discussed and how much land would be needed. Members would like to invite Al Larson to come to the EDA meeting.

Housing Grant: Application was submitted by John Swenstad. This will be added to the next agenda if Swenstad is ok to wait.

Discussed the housing grant application. Ryan Peterson was going to talk to Dirk Hagedon regarding the new spec house and if the new owners would be able to submit an application.

Dahlheimer asked if the language is accurate and if they would qualify.

More discussion will be held at the next meeting with more members present, to decide if the application should be required to be submitted before building.

Good to see houses being built. Anderson will talk to Hagedon about building spec homes for the EDA. If a floor plan can be figured out, EDA will find the lots.

Gambling: At the last meeting, Jason Murray commented that if decertified, the city can get all the money. Anderson said he confirmed this with Murray. No longer divided and all can go to housing funds.

Dahlheimer – have a strategy and there may be a way to get all the money.

Douglas County is not putting a lot of money into Osakis. Anderson would like something in writing from Jason Murray for the correct way to get the money.

Discussed funds from the gambling organizations and Liquor Store. The city cannot always say they are giving the same each year from the Liquor Store. Will depend on how well the Liquor Store does each year.

All members present said do not wish to invite the Gambling Organizations to the June meeting. Should have more discussion with all members present.

Danielson suggested to meet quarterly with the organizations to have discussions.

I-94 Sign: A request from Marthalers for the sign rental to increase to \$1,300. Discuss at the June meeting.

New Business: Danielson said she was contacted regarding a new business. They would like to be located on the southwest corner of Central Avenue and Nokomis Street West (old bait shop/car lot). This would be a business for renting kayaks, bikes and etc.

Dahlheimer – need to figure out what to do with the absent landlords and vacant buildings that could be occupied.

Apartments: It was mentioned that Roachs are doing developments. They built the Harbor Landing apartments in town.

Danielson mentioned the Lowry EDA owns an apartment complex in their town.

Long Prairie EDA: It was mentioned that Dan Wessel called them and told them it was not going to work to attend their meeting. Suggested that they contact Jason Murray (David Drowns) themselves. Bonnie Schultz informed the members that she is resigning. Schultz started in 1994 and has 30 years on the EDA board.

Other Information: Dahlheimer commented that some subsidiaries are available for new home builds for people interested in opening child care in their homes. Dahlheimer will get more information.

Looking for a new member to replace Bonnie Schultz. Suggestions included Brian Ferris, Dirk Hagedon and Brandon Hetland.

Next meeting – June 24th, 2024.