

MEETING MINUTES

CLARA CITY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (EDA)
REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday (Due to Columbus Day)
October 13, 2020
12:00 Noon

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CLARA CITY, MINNESOTA

Members present: Chip Goeman, James Thein, Gary Nelson (12:06 PM), and Steve Jones

Members absent: Robert Schwitters (excused), Chad Forkrud (excused), Rhonda Pieper (excused)

Staff present: Gene Wenstrom (EDA Consultant)

Others present: Sam Peterson (Clara City Herald), and Sherri Broderius (MACCRAY Schools)

1. Call to Order—*By President Chip Goeman at 12:03 P.M. (A Quorum was not present until 12:06 PM.)*

2. Additions/Deletions/Modifications/Approval of Agenda

***Action taken:** Upon calling for any additions/deletions/modifications to the draft agenda and receiving none, Chairman Goeman declared the Meeting Agenda to be approved as presented.*

3. Approval of Minutes

3. (A) Regular EDA Meeting Minutes for Sept. 7, 2020.

***Action taken:** M/S/P 4-0 (Nelson/Thein) to approve the EDA Meeting Minutes for Sept. 7, 2020, as presented.*

4. Communications/Notices—*None.*

5. Reports from Officers and Committees

5. (A) Financial Report—*Jones reported no change to the financial position of the EDA from last month.*

5. (B) Loan Servicing Requests, if any—*Staff reported that there were no such requests.*

6. Reports from Staff and Administrative Officers

6. (A) Gene Wenstrom, EDA Consultant, gave an overall update on the health of local businesses. Overall many businesses have been busy and some are hiring. There has been some discussion about adding a pharmacy to the grocery store, and the Wild Hare property is being looked at by a landscape architect.

7. General Business

OLD BUSINESS

7. (A) Information from Superintendent Sherri Broderius, MACCRAY I.S.D. # 2180: Broderius gave an update on the school construction and bidding schedule, shared color schemes for some of the buildings, and mentioned that the current climate is good for bids, and they hope bids will come in low so completion of many of the alternates may be possible.

7. (B) Update on the former “Junior High Property”: Jones gave an update on some ongoing problems with security, but that the county had taken some additional action to secure the site.

7. (C) Update on Small Cities Grant: The city is finishing paperwork with the UMVRDC, and hope to have funding in place by November.

7. (D) Update on the issue of small box “Discount Stores”: The Planning Commission will have this issue as center piece for discussion at their November meeting.

7. (E) Cares Act Funding: The city council has set for approval this week three grants to local businesses.

NEW BUSINESS

7. (F) Potential Bond Refunding: Jones reported on the possibility of a major refinancing of the Assisted Living Facility, which may produce up to \$419,875 in savings, or a present value of up to 13.16%.

7. (G) SWIF Funding: The board reviewed a request for funding from the Southwest Initiative Foundation for \$450. In the past this had been paid by the city, but it is not budgeted by the city for 2021. In other communities, EDA’s often fund these requests. After discussion *M/S/P 4-0 (Thein, Nelson) to donate \$450 to the SWIF for their annual fund-raising campaign.*

8. Announcements: The next meeting of the EDA will be on **Monday, November 9, 2020, 12:00 Noon, at City Hall.**

9. Adjournment—*At 12:37 PM*

ATTEST: _____
Steven C. Jones, Secretary