

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Monday, January 31, 2011

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, President Menk called the meeting of the Brainerd Economic Development Authority to order at 8:02 a.m.

Present were Commissioners Ed Menk, Terry Johnson, Wayne Erickson, and Kelly Bevans.

Also present were City Administrator Vogt, Finance Director Goble, Chamber CEO Lisa Paxton, Downtown Director Amber Haapajoki-Hahn, Sheila Haverkamp representing BLAEDC and City Planner Ostgarden.

#2 Approval/Amendment of Agenda – Approved.

#3 Approval of Minutes – November 29, 2010 – Approved.

#4 Approval of Financial Report – Approved.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONERS BEVANS AND ERICKSON, DULY CARRIED, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, MINUTES, AND FINANCIAL REPORT AS PRESENTED.

#5 Potential Property Sale – Recommend to the Council Moving Forward with Appraisal of City-Owned Parcels North of the Thelen/Shipman Properties with Costs to be Shared between City and Interested Parties – Approved.

A copy of an email from Kevin Goedker was included in the Packet which stated that John Thelen and Dan Shipman have inquired about the land the City owns to the North and East of Shipman Auto for potential purchase. The three parcels are identified as #050312200B00009, 050312200A00009, and 050312100B00009, and a map showing the properties was included as well.

City Administrator Vogt stated that the property had been appraised in 2006 by Jim Bedard; however, he recommends that the EDA recommend to the Council that an updated appraisal be done so that the public can be comfortable that the price is fair and current.

Discussion was held related to the 2006 appraisal and City-owned land in the surrounding area.

The Chair recognized Mr. Jon Thelen, part owner of Thelen Heating and Roofing, who stated that he and Mr. Dan Shipman would like to acquire the property and post it as “private/no trespassing” to create a buffer as well as a place to hunt. He confirmed that at this time there is no desire to develop the land. He also confirmed that they would be interested other parcels north of their facilities if the appraised price is reasonable.

City Planner Ostgarden stated that the land is currently zoned industrial but being proposed as residential.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONERS BEVANS AND ERICKSON, DULY CARRIED, TO RECOMMEND TO THE COUNCIL TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE APPRAISAL OF LAND NORTH OF THE SHIPMAN/THELEN FACILITIES WITH COSTS TO BE SHARED EQUALLY BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE PARTIES INTERESTED IN PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTIES.

#6 Main Street Program Coordinator – Introduction of New Coordinator & Update – Informational.

The Chair recognized Ms. Lisa Paxton, CEO of the Brainerd Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce, who introduced the new Main Street Director, Amber Haapajoki-Hahn, who had been with the Chamber for 5 work days. She stated that Ms. Haapajoki-Hahn's first priority has been coordinating focus groups set up for the Market Position Statement focus groups who will be meeting next week.

Ms. Haapajoki-Hahn stated that she plans to reach out to each business owner in the next few months.

#7 Brainerd Lakes Area Economic Development Corporation – Update – Informational.

The Chair recognized Ms. Sheila Haverkamp, BLAEDC, who discussed BLAEDC's annual meeting being held on Tuesday, February 22nd at 11:30 at the Lodge where the new name and logo will be "unveiled." She summarized the new BLAEDC Monthly and Quarterly Activity Overview reports using the example included in the Packet.

Ms. Haverkamp also stated that the Meadowview Manor project is currently on hold based on the main lender not being comfortable with the appraised value and current occupancy at the park.

#8 Staff Reports.

City Administrator Vogt stated that the new Waste Water Treatment Plant is up and running. He also reported that parts of the old facility will be demolished, with some parts of the old plant that will be reused.

#9 Commissioners' Comments/Questions.

None.

#10 Adjourn.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:25 A.M.

Kim Ellingson, Secretary