

BRAINERD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Tuesday, November 17, 2020 7:30 a.m.
WebEx Teleconference Special Meeting
Official Minutes

Pursuant to the call and notice thereof, President Sinner called the meeting of the Brainerd Economic Development Authority to order at 7:33 a.m.

Roll Call

Present were Commissioners Ed Menk, Jerry Sinner, Wayne Erickson, Michael O'Day, Marie Kirsch, and Gabe Johnson. Commissioner Kelly Bevans was noted as absent. Also present were City Administrator Bergman, Finance Director Hillman, Tyler Glynn, BLAEDC executive director, Eric Charpentier, HRA director, and John Schommer, HRA rehab coordinator.

Approval/Amendment of the Agenda

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONERS O'DAY AND JOHNSON TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

Upon roll call, Commissioners Menk, Sinner, Erickson, O'Day, Kirsch, and Johnson voted "aye". No member voted "nay". The Chair declared the motion carried.

2021 Budget Discussion

Community Development Director Chanski started off the discussion by reviewing the City Council's decision on the 2021 levy. He gave a brief explanation of the 2021 requested budget and the revisions to discuss. He indicated there has been a funding request has been submitted by the Destination Downtown Business Coalition to assist in funding a part time Downtown Coordinator.

City Administrator Bergman explained the 2021 recommended changes to the professional services line items with the City of Brainerd and BLAEDC and ideas to increase the economic incentives line item.

Discussion took place on the EDA fund balance and questions answered.

Mr. Tyler Glynn expressed concerns with the reduced funding to BLAEDC and the idea of working with the City on more economic initiatives. He stated the original amount of \$78,500 was included in their budget, and along with reduced income due to COVID, it will be difficult to recoup. Commissioner Menk stated he would like the original motion approved from October 2019 to fund the \$78,500 for 2021 to remain with no reductions to BLAEDC.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONERS MENK AND SINNER TO HOLD THE CURRENT 2021 BUDGET AND NOT CONTINUE WITH THE PROPOSED 2021 BUDGET AND MOVE \$30,000 FROM THE FUND BALANCE TO THE ECONOMIC INITIATIVES FUND.

Upon roll call, Commissioners Menk and Sinner voted “aye”. Commissioners Erickson, O’Day, Kirsch, and Johnson voted “nay”. The Chair declared the motion failed.

Commissioner Menk suggested this agenda item to be reconvened at the December meeting to give additional time for review.

Adjournment

The Authority adjourned at 8:10 a.m.

Wayne Erickson, Secretary/Treasurer