



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Monday, August 22, 2022

5:30 pm

Village Municipal Building Meeting Room

1210 Mills St., Black Earth, WI 53515

MINUTES

1. **Call Meeting to Order.** Chair Hodson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. **Roll Call of the Economic Development Committee and Confirmation of Quorum.** Upon roll call present: Hodson, Riel, Antonie, Glunn. Quorum present. Absent: Louis-Reindl, Munson, Sinz.
3. **Proof of Posting:** A copy of the notice was delivered to the following on 8/19/2022 faxed to the Star News; posted at the Black Earth Municipal Building and Black Earth Post Office, posted on the Black Earth Web Page (www.blackearthwisconsin.com) and faxed for posting to the State Bank of Cross Plains – Black Earth Branch. Duly noticed
4. **Approval of prior meeting minutes dated June 29, 2022.** Antonie/Hodson motioned to approve. Motion approved.
5. **Business/Community Development Reports.**
 - a. **Village:** ACT Benish reported:
 - i. BE Elementary School: William Baney has agreed to purchase the Black Earth Elementary School. He has submitted a re-zone petition the Plan Commission will take up on Monday, August 29th. Application states the property is to be used commercially for an antique mall.
 - ii. Developer's Agreement: Extraseeing, LLC agreement for TIF funding has been reviewed by party. Party wishes to change terms of the agreement to a Pay Go versus a cash out agreement. Concerns about property assessment and taxes.
 - iii. Developer's:
 1. Developer's that toured through Village decided to not pursue any projects at this time.
 2. Connected another interested party with New Heights Lutheran Church.
 - b. **Gateway:** Antonie presented the Gateway is working hard to keep the year-round multi use trail and bridge project moving. Dane & Sauk Counties met and are working on an RFP for the Wisconsin River Bridge Project. Hopes are to begin construction as early as next spring.
 - c. **School:** Jordan could not be present but shared in an email:
 - i. As of today, we have one support staff position unfilled. Given the challenges that schools around the state and nation are facing with staffing shortages, we are very fortunate.
 - ii. The occupancy inspection for the elementary school is Tuesday, August 23.
 - iii. Open house for families and students is this Thursday (August 25) from 2 - 6 pm.
 - iv. School starts on Thursday, September 1.
 - v. We are working on the details of a community grand opening of our K-12 campus on **Friday, September 30**. More details to follow in the next few weeks.
 - d. **Chamber:** Glunn present:
 - i. Miles no longer President. In early stages of reforming. Paulette, Kim Ferrie, Dave Cooper. Small business Saturday's coming up November 26th; business responses need to be looked at. Email is not working; moving forward chili cook off idea, Chamber still has funds, locations, wine serving; Chamber would buy serving cups. Chamber can't be events committee; it is not giving back to the businesses. Opportunity to see the

businesses as a follow up to the Old business listed on agenda and see what it is they want from the Chamber. Wine Walk discussion. Paulette will send email of interest out. Set up meeting for end of September.

6. Old Business:

- a. **Business Follow Ups:** Thanking the businesses; partnering with Chamber to visit again and check in on needs.

7. New Business:

- a. **Planner ideas:** Grant research and writing; business development; downtown revitalization. Discussion on murals, events, finding new businesses.
- b. **Budget 2023:** ACT Benish discussed past budgets of \$10000 and carry over of unused amounts. Current budget was \$30000 with remaining funds of \$17000. We can carry over unused and budget additional amount. Planner discussed to bring on board could have a hefty fee depending on how they are used. Funds were earmarked for the planner. Plan on budgeting in the \$10k and the carry over at this time. Riel inquired of any grants out there to support a planner as in the past that did the Assessment. Would have to be researched. Grant utilized before is no longer out there.

8. Any Other Business That May Be Brought before the Board on future agendas. Nothing.

9. Setting of Next Meeting. Wednesday, September 28, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. Set up via Zoom.

10. Adjournment of Economic Development Committee Meeting. Antonie/Riel to adjourn. Meeting adjourn at 6:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shellie Benish, WCMC
Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer

Economic Development Committee Members: Mitch Hodson, Pam Louis-Reindl, Tyler Munson, Michelle Riel – Community member, Jordan Sinz– business member, Black Earth Chamber, Gateway to the Driftless
Alternate: Terry Moyer