Lamberton EDA Minutes

April 8, 2019 ● 5:15 p.m.

The Lamberton EDA met in regular session in the city council room on April 8, 2019 with Board Members L. Sik, C. Stavnes, M. Bents, R. Arkell and B. Bartholomaus present. Debbie Vollmer, Madonna Peterson and Justin Thram were in attendance. Board Members, L. Bittner and C. Wetter were absent. Brandon Carter, Leon Benedict and Brian Pfarr were in attendance.

Vice-Chair Bents called the meeting to order. On a motion by Stavnes, seconded by Bartholomaus the agenda was unanimously approved.

Brandon Carter informed the board he was looking to purchase 1 to 1 ½ acres of land to place a storage facility on it. He presented a plan for a 40x100, 22-unit facility. Brandon indicated he would like enough land for the possibility of expanding the facility. Deliberation ensued regarding the EDA owned land on the NW edge of town. Brandon stated he also learned of an additional piece of land and would be attending the city council meeting to seek the possible sale of this land. The board expressed their support of a new business and asked Brandon to stay in close contact with Vollmer.

Leon Benedict asked the board about any past or future development plans of a piece of rural land abutting city limits that he thought may have infrastructure already. He indicated it would be an ideal place to construct a day-care center and a housing unit. Vollmer and Peterson will search past records for maps or any development plans that may have been developed.

Bents moved, Sik seconded for unanimous approval of the March 11, 2019 EDA Board minutes.

Vollmer discussed the status of the EDA business loan payments. After the treasurer’s report was reviewed, Sik moved, Bartholomaus seconded for unanimous approval.

Thram presented the preliminary sketch for the infrastructure of the industrial park. He asked the board to remember this is not a feasibility report, only a simple sketch by the Bolton & Menk design engineer to assist with a potential grant application. This sketch includes a road, water, sewer and the access points. Thram explained possible deviations and/or potentials that could be incorporated to the sketch. After board review, Justin was asked to have the engineer add a turn lane onto U.S. Highway 14 to the sketch.

In old business, the DWA Consulting Strategic Plan Proposal was deliberated. Vollmer reviewed more in-depth details of what the plan proposal involved. Brian Pfarr asked to address the board. Brian told the board of how grant opportunities open when communities come together as one voice. This is achieved when a strategic plan is in place. The funders of grants look at how dedicated communities invest in themselves with goals and plans. Bartholomaus commented that if the main goal for the strategic plan was to bring in grant money, he would not be opposed to the idea. Sik commented that the city is already doing what DWA is proposing to do, they have already come together to raise money for things in the community. After further discussion about the importance of a strategic plan, Stavnes made a motion to approve $5,000 contingent on Vollmer finding other sources to satisfy the $50,000. Bents seconded the motion. Motion carried with no other discussion.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Lydell, seconded by Bents and carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie Vollmer

EDA Coordinator