



**City of Newport
Newport Economic Development Authority Minutes
April 20, 2017**

1. CONVENE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING

President Lund called the Regular NEDA Meeting to order at 8:08 p.m.

A. Roll Call

Commission Members Present – Dan Lund, Bill Sumner, Tracy Rahm, Kevin Chapdelaine, Roz Johnson

Commission Members Absent -

B. Review Agenda

C. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Lund, seconded by Sumner, to approve the February 16, 2017 and March 2, 2017 NEDA minutes as presented. With 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion carried.

2. NEW BUSINESS

B. Façade Improvement Grant

Admin. Hill presented on this item as outlined in the April 20, 2017 NEDA packet. Admin. Hill is recommending that the City expand the grant program and offer two hours with an architect from TKDA, the City's planning firm, to go over designs.

Shane Tyson from Courtesy Car Rental was present at the meeting. Mr. Tyson provided a sample of the vinyl siding. Mr. Tyson is willing to meet with the architect.

The EDA directed staff to get a proposal from TKDA for architectural services and to bring this back after they meet with Mr. Tyson.

A. Purchase Agreement for Four City-Owned Lots

Admin. Hill presented on this item. The City received purchase offers for the four lots that were outlined in the April 20, 2017 NEDA packet. The offers were for \$32,000 each. Admin. Hill believes that is low considering two of the lots would have views of the Mississippi River. President Lund was going to work on creating a dock association for three of the four lots.

The EDA directed staff to accept the purchase offer for 260 9th Street but wait on the other three lots. The EDA agreed that the developer can market those three lots.

Motion by Sumner, seconded by Lund, to accept Mr. Alsip's purchase offer of \$32,000 for 260 9th Street. With 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion carried.

3. OTHER BUSINESS

Admin. Hill - I finally got a hold of Federowski's, they own the other two lots north of Lions Park. They are not interested in selling at the moment. The other two lots are \$70,000 for both. If you want me to formally offer \$70,000, Fritz can put something together.

President Lund - I'm ok with that.

Commissioner Chapdelaine - Me too.

Commissioner Rahm - Me too.

Motion by Lund, seconded by Johnson, to direct staff to offer \$70,000 for the two lots owned by James and Pamela Kaiser. With 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion carried.

Admin. Hill - Also, we've been going back and forth with Mr. Donovan for his property on Cedar Lane. We'll hopefully be closing in a week or so.

Commissioner Sumner - What's happening with the cell tower?

Admin. Hill - They decided to put it in Maplewood.

President Lund - Is this the appropriate venue to appoint Tracy to the MnDot/Cold Storage issue?

Commissioner Rahm - Why?

President Lund - Because it's not moving.

Attorney Knaak - We're working with the lawyer.

Commissioner Rahm - I can work on it.

President Lund - That's the best site if we do a billboard. Also, I had a phone call with a storage company about moving into the Fritz building. Did we have a conversation about that? Apparently they got pushback from us.

Asst. to the City Admin. Eisenbeisz - I brought that forward a couple months ago and you said no.

President Lund - I informed them of the IR Services lot.

Asst. to the City Admin. Eisenbeisz - I informed them of that lot as well.

President Lund - Were you going to reach out to the Raceway to Fun site about housing?

Admin. Hill - I did and they have no plans for housing on this site.

4. ADJOURN

Motion by Chapdelaine, seconded by Rahm, to adjourn the regular NEDA meeting at 9:06 p.m. With 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion carried.

Signed: _____
Dan Lund, President

Respectfully Submitted:

Renee Eisenbeisz
Assistant to the City Administrator