

**CITY OF SCANDIA  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

**Monday, June 10, 2019**

**6:30 P.M.**

**Scandia Community Center Board Room**

The Scandia Economic Development Authority met in the Board Room at the Scandia Community Center on Monday, June 10<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:30pm.

Commissioners Present: Brad Borg, Steve Kronmiller, Mark Porubcansky, and Patti Ray. Kirsten Libby arrived at 7:00 p.m.

Staff Present: Deputy Clerk Brenda Eklund

Also present: Chris Eng (Washington County CDA), Mayor Christine Maefsky

**Minutes** – Kronmiller noted a correction to the May 29, 2019 minutes that the fixed wireless build-out is estimated to be 1-2 years. Motion by Borg, seconded by Ray, to approve the minutes of the May 29, 2019 meeting as corrected. Vote: Yes 4-0. Motion carried.

**Agenda** - Motion by Porubcansky, seconded by Ray, to approve the agenda as amended to add an update on the Midco broadband expansion proposal. Vote: Yes 4-0. Motion carried.

**Update from Washington County CDA** – Chris Eng reported that the CDA still has money available for pre-development grant funding for projects that are tied to economic development.

**Discussion on Tourism Assessment** – At the April 24<sup>th</sup> EDA breakfast meeting with businesses, a presentation on the Tourism Assessment was given by Cynthia Messer, UM Tourism Development Center. Short term ideas and strategies included the creation of a task force/committee to lead community tourism efforts. Motion by Porubcansky, seconded Ray, to recommend to the City Council the establishment of Tourism Committee comprised of 5-7 members representing the business community, existing tourism venues, and community volunteer organizations that would build support and a vision for tourism development and establish priorities for meeting the strategies of the tourism assessment. The Committee would regularly report to the City Council. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

**Discussion on the development of a 3-year work plan** – The goals of the EDA work plan were reviewed, described as a guide to keep the EDA focused on strategic planning through 2020. The goal to explore options for a Business Retention and Expansion Program was discussed. Chris Eng described a sample questionnaire that he could provide for an informal business visitation program conducted by one or two EDA members with each business owner. Eng will

craft the questionnaire the July EDA meeting. EDA members will review a list of local businesses to begin the visitation program with.

**Director's updates** – The study by Bolton & Menk to determine the cost of providing a community water system to the commercial area along 97 east of Olinda is on-going. It's anticipated that City Engineer Goodman will provide a report to the City Council at their meeting on June 18<sup>th</sup>.

Kronmiller reported that the City Council voted to move ahead with Midco's proposal for broadband expansion via Fixed Wireless that would require no city funding. CTC is unwilling to engage at this point, unless Midco backs out of their deal; however, there are many details yet to be figured out on both sides. Kronmiller reported that Midco will present further information the second week of July, proposed as a public meeting. In preparation for this, the Internet Focus Group will meet on June 19<sup>th</sup> to review the content of Midco's proposal.

**Commissioner Reports** – Treasurer Kronmiller presented an invoice for payment. Motion by Ray, seconded by Borg, to approve payment of \$980 to Bolton & Menk for work completed on the Community Water System study. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

**Items for future agendas** – Items identified for future agendas are the Business Retention Program, a report from the Committee on Community Center improvements, and planning for the October business breakfast.

**Next Meeting Date** – The date of the next meeting will be July 8, 2019.

**Adjournment** – Motion by Porubcansky, seconded by Ray, to adjourn. Vote 5-0. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda Eklund, Acting Secretary