

# **MINUTES OF THE GRAND MEADOW ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**

April 11, 2024

Pursuant to do call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Grand Meadow EDA was held at the Grand Meadow Community Center this 11th day of April 2024 at 2:30 p.m.

The following members were present: President Tabitha Hoffman, Vice President Elaine Iverson, Lacie Tingesdal, Ryan Queensland, and Dave Feddersen. Also present, City Administrator James Christian, CEDA representative Zach Bubany. Absent: Mike Bowe, Isaac Tangen.

- I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL** Meeting called to order at 2:30 pm by Board President T. Hoffman.
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND JANUARY MEETING MINUTES** Motion by Feddersen to approve the agenda and the minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Queensland. Motion passed unanimously.
- III. EDA FINANCIAL REPORTS:** Christian stated that he had not adjusted the numbers from the previous month as the audit is due and will have the actual total numbers.
- IV. GUEST/PUBLIC INPUT**
- V. NEW BUSINESS**
  - A. J&S Repair Expansion: Travis Warmka had sent out an email regarding a planned expansion of J&S Repair, in which they are looking for 20 acres to build a 60,000-sf facility. The email was sent to the cities of Grand Meadow, Spring Valley, Racine, and Dexter, as well as More, Fillmore, and Howard counties. Christian responded to Warmka by asking how many full-time and part-time employees were currently employed at the Grand Meadow location, average salaries, and the number of employees at the Grand Meadow location living in the Grand Meadow school district, as well as the square footage and location of each facility J&S currently uses in Grand Meadow. Christian stated that Warmka had responded with that information. Queensland stated that he had talked to County Commissioner Polly Glynn, who relayed that County Administrator Trish Harren had set up a meeting with Warmka on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Queensland stated that he had also talked to Warmka regarding areas that J&S is looking at for the expansion. Feddersen asked what the plan for the existing facilities was and Queensland replied that the plan was to move Featherlite Graphics into the main facility. Hoffman inquired what would happen to the other facilities (the old Legion and the wash bay in industrial park), and Queensland replied that he did not know, but Warmka had told him that the inefficiency of having multiple facilities was the reason for the new facility. A brief discussion was had about what the city and county could offer as an incentive for remaining in Grand Meadow.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. CEDA Rural Capacity Program Grant – Zach Bubany: Bubany introduced himself and gave a brief overview of the Business Retention and Expansion program. He discussed the preliminary work plan that he had come up with for the Board’s review and input, and also discussed the Community Report that CEDA will be creating for the City. Bubany mentioned a SMIF grant that he had applied for to establish a community foundation (\$50k). Bubany discussed ways to leverage the \$15k grant the EDA had received to make the BRE program sustainable. A discussion was held regarding a community foundation, and what the relationship, if any, would be to the GMEF. Feddersen asked about foundations in cities the size of Grand Meadow, and Bubany replied that often smaller foundations tend to encompass an area, not necessarily just within city limits.
- B. EDA Action Plan: Christian stated that the EDA Action Plan he had been working on will be rolled into the BRE program with Bubany assisting.

**VII. WALK ON ITEMS:** Queensland asked for EDA emails to be sent to his work email address.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to Adjourn by Queensland, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tingesdal. Motion Passed unanimously. The time was 3:11.