

**CITY OF ELKO NEW MARKET
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
ELKO NEW MARKET AREA HALL
601 MAIN STREET
ELKO NEW MARKET, MINNESOTA 55054
THURSDAY, April 28, 2016**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Julius at 6:31 p.m. with the following members present: Chair Julius, Bob Crawford, Josh Berg, and Patricia Timmons. Absent: Bob Vogel and Jason Stern.

Also Present: Executive Director Tom Terry, Economic Development Coordinator Renee Christianson, and City Clerk Sandra Green.

2. ADOPT/APPROVE AGENDA

It was moved by Timmons, seconded by Crawford to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried (4-0).

3. CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Berg, seconded by Timmons to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried (4-0).

- a. Approve Minutes of the January 28, 2016 Meeting of the Economic Development Authority.

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. None

5. CONTINUED BUSINESS

a. Staff Updates

A list of projects that city staff has been working on was included in the EDA packet. Christianson noted that staff has been participating in the interchange study work group, that staff met with several developers interested in both residential and commercial development and also prepared several development fee estimates, staff corresponded with an auto repair business from Faribault, and staff is working on two large leads for the Park I-35 industrial park.

Chair Julius asked about the status of several projects. He asked about the proposed Boulder Heights development and timing on the annexation agreement. Chair Julius asked about the status of the downtown aesthetic improvements study. Renee Christianson stated that the downtown aesthetics had not been worked on due to lack of staff time.

Commissioner Crawford noted that a recent discussion with Warren Barsness indicated that his development plans are still under development with J.R. Hill. Crawford also met recently with a landowner and a developer from Iowa.

Tom Terry updated the EDA on recent discussions regarding the property commonly known as the Christmas Tree Lot, and discussions about rezoning the property from commercial to residential.

b. Windrose 8th City-Owned Lots

Renee Christianson informed the EDA there was a closing/sale of one of the City owned lots in Windrose 8th Addition on April 27th, 2016. Under the current purchase agreement, the second lot must be closed by September 1st, 2016.

c. Branding Project Update

Renee Christianson gave a brief update regarding the branding project, noting that the first phase of the project involves researching current perceptions of the City with commercial/industrial brokers and developers who work in the south metro. An on-line survey has been distributed to more than 350 recipients. In addition to the on-line survey, Renown Marketing, will also be doing phone interviews to gain a more in-depth understanding of perceptions. Following the broker-developer research, Renown Marketing will be researching the brands of neighboring communities. Staff requested a special EDA meeting be held on Thursday, May 26th for the purposes of hearing the survey results and appointment steering committee members. It was moved by Berg, seconded by Crawford to schedule a special meeting of the EDA on Thursday, May 26th, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. Motion carried (4-0).

d. Park I-35 Utility Design Update

City Engineer Rich Revering informed the EDA that progress is being made on the design of sanitary sewer and water infrastructure needed to serve the Park I-35 development. New Market Township may incorporate some improvements to Dupont Avenue into the city's project.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. None

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

There was no report.

8. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Crawford, seconded by Berg to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 p.m. Motion carried (4-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee L. Christianson

Renee L. Christianson
Economic Development Coordinator