



GOODHUE COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Tuesday, May 18, 2010

Present: Commissioners: Jim Bryant, Richard Samuelson, Ted Seifert, Ron Allen, Dan Rechtzigel

EDA Members: Dan King and Patricia Anderson

Others: Scott Arneson, Carolyn Holmsten, Chris Heineman,

Moved by C/Bryant, seconded by C/Seifert, and carried to approve the May 18, 2010, EDA Board Agenda.

Moved by C/Seifert, seconded by C/Allen, and carried to approve the February 16, 2010 EDA Board Meeting minutes as written.

Kenyon School Update

Chris Heineman addressed the board and discussed the History of the Kenyon High School. Following the last EDA meeting, a task force made up of city, county and school representatives was formed to review the building and determine if there was potential for re-use. They looked at structural issues as well as possible funding options that could be available. As of May 10, the forfeiture of the remaining lots did move forward. The State of Minnesota now holds the title and we are in the position to move forward.

Chris Heineman recommended that a public scope meeting be held within the next 60 days. After that meeting the Kenyon City Council would make a recommendation to the County Board.

C/Allen asked if they have looked at other options such as a park rather than renovating the building. Mr. Heineman stated that a number of issues have been discussed. Dan King questioned what the underlying zoning is. Mr. Heineman stated that it was rezoned commercial for a portion but it has been basically residential use.

Chris Gastner from SEMDC noted that the partnership between the city, county and school district will help whatever the next step may be.

Carolyn Holmsten reviewed the most recent information and timeline for tax-forfeited property. Depending on if the city will be using this for public use or public purpose will determine what the next channel will be. Public use means anyone can use it. Public purpose means it is used for a select group, but for the public.

C/Rechtzigel questioned if one path was more cumbersome. S. Arneson indicated that that it was clear to him that it was easier to go down the public Use vs. public purpose.

C/Rechtzigel suggested getting the task force together prior to the public scope meeting and then again after the meeting.

Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds

The federal government is giving Counties the authority to bond at a lower rate however in most cases the amount they are allowing is not enough to do anything. You have to bond by January 1, 2011 and the Goodhue County does not have a project that would work under these Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds. The projects have to be ready in advance in order to use.

Goodhue County does not currently have this money in hand, however they have been designated for Goodhue County. Requesting that the authority goes back to the State of MN so that other counties could use it if they need.

Staff has requested input and clarification from cities as to whether or not they are interested in the dollars and at this point nobody is prepared with a project.

Motion by C/Bryant, second by C/Allen, motion carried to recommend the county board approve the proposed resolutions giving the Recovery Zone Economic Development Bond authority back to the State of MN.

Motion by C/Samuelsen, second by C/Seifert, motion carried to adjourn the County EDA meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Scott Arneson
Executive Secretary