

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES OF MARCH 10, 2015

At a meeting of the Economic Development Authority held on the 10th day March 2015, in the Accomack County Airport Conference Room, in Melfa, Virginia.

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. MEMBERS PRESENT AND ABSENT

Economic Development Authority Members Present:

Mr. John LeCato, Chairman
Mr. Robert Bloxom, Vice Chairman
Mr. Calvert Seybolt
Mr. Wesley Edwards
Ms. Shirley Zamora
Ms. Ira Ashby-Hope
Mr. C. Ray Davis

Economic Development Authority Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

Mr. Rich Morrison, Director of Planning and Community Development
Ms. Kristen Tremblay, Assistant Planner

B. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The floor was opened for the public comment period. No one signed up or requested to speak.

3. MINUTES

A. February 10, 2015

Ms. Zamora pointed out that the date of the job fair was actually March 10, 2015 and not February 10, 2015 as was previously reported.

On a motion made by Mr. Edwards and seconded by Mr. Seybolt, the Economic Development Authority voted to approve the minutes of February 10, 2015 with modifications.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Edwards reported that as of March 10, 2015 there is \$25,819 in the Economic Development Authority Fund.

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He also reported that the check from Mr. Lucas was deposited, but has not yet shown up in the EDA account. After discussion, it was determined that the amended contract for Mr. Lucas' purchase was in Chairman LeCato's possession, and that Chairman LeCato would attempt to have Mr. Lucas sign.

Mr. Edwards also reported that the EDA has to issue a financial summary to the newspaper which he has submitted the summary and will cost the EDA approximately \$145.

He also informed the EDA that he has drawn down third quarter money, but not fourth quarter at this time.

5. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

A. Ms. Zamora

Ms. Zamora informed the EDA that she is concerned about a letter she received from 'Talk America' which indicated that a change in her phone service would take place unless she responded within a certain timeframe. Her concern was that this practice of 'slamming' creates a negative situation for County citizens. She asked the EDA if the County or State had some type of fraud protection. Discussion ensued.

B. Mr. Edwards

Mr. Edwards has nothing to report at this time.

C. Mr. Seybolt

Mr. Seybolt has nothing to report at this time.

D. Mr. Davis

Mr. Davis has nothing to report at this time.

E. Ms. Ashby-Hope

Ms. Ashby-Hope has nothing to report at this time.

F. Chairman LeCato

Chairman LeCato reported that the only changes to the budget for fiscal year 2015 included computer work and marketing which were not included in the budget.

He also reported that he would try to meet with Mr. Lucas to have the amended contract signed for the purchase of industrial park lands.

6. MARKETING STRATEGIES

Nothing to report at this time.

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7. STAFF REPORT

Rich Morrison reported on the request for a Conditional Rezoning by Susan Linton (Dollar General) in Mappsville. Discussion ensued.

He also reported that the seed and fertilizer company is progressing slowly.

Mr. Morrison reported to the EDA that there was an interest in the industrial park that did not come to fruition. He raised the question about whether the EDA was open to accepting warehousing. After discussion, the consensus was that warehousing was acceptable.

He also informed the EDA that he will provide more information about the natural gas line at the EDA's next meeting.

8. ROUTE 13 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Edwards asked the EDA if it wanted to take a position on the economic development of Route 13.

On a motion made by Ms. Zamora and seconded by Mr. Edwards, the Economic Development Authority voted to create a letter to both the Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission which shows support in encouraging business growth along Route 13. There were two (2) abstentions: Mr. Bloxom and Mr. Seybolt.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 14, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. at the Accomack County Airport Conference room.

10. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Ms. Zamora, and seconded by Mr. Davis, the Economic Development Authority voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

Mr. John LeCato, Chairman