

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES OF JULY 8, 2014

At a meeting of the Economic Development Authority held on the 8th day of July 2014, 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. Calvert Seybolt
Ms. Shirley Zamora
Mr. Robert Bloxom, Vice Chairman
Ms. Irene Davis
Ms. Ira Ashby-Hope
Mr. Wesley Edwards

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 9:05 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. June 10, 2014

Ms. Davis requested that Staff adjust page 2, item number 5(b), and page 3, item number 6 from P.O. Box to Purchase Order in both instances.

On a motion made by Mr. Bloxom and seconded by Mr. Edwards, the Economic Development Authority voted to approve the minutes of June 10, 2014 as amended.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

As of July 7, 2014, there is gain of \$2.37 in the Economic Development Authority Fund. The Treasurer nor the Chairman has signed off on any bills since the last meeting.

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Chairman LeCato submitted an invoice to the treasurer from the Eastern Shore News for the publication of the EDA annual budget summary.

Another check was received by the VSBFA for the YMCA bond. Mr. Edwards stated that he was uncertain as to why the amount was not what the EDA believed they would be receiving for the bond. He agreed to check with County Attorney, Mark Taylor to investigate.

Chairman LeCato presented a letter received from the Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce to the EDA which contained an application for membership. Discussion ensued.

On a motion made by Mr. Edwards and seconded by Mr. Seybolt, the Economic Development Authority voted to not participate this year in either the membership or advertisement with the Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce.

On a motion made by Ms. Ashby-Hope and seconded by Ms. Zamora, the Economic Development Authority voted to approve the Treasurers report as presented.

5. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

A. Ms. Zamora

Has nothing to report at this time

B. Mr. Seybolt

Mr. Seybolt relayed to the EDA that this will be a good rental season, and that property sales in Chincoteague are up this year.

C. Mr. Edwards

Mr. Edwards submitted to the EDA his findings on comparable rates at other airports. Discussion ensued. He requested that the EDA draft a letter to the Board of Supervisors indicating the desires of the EDA concerning airport tax rates, natural gas, and NASA related concerns.

On a motion made by Mr. Edwards and seconded by Ms. Zamora, the Economic Development Authority voted to write a letter to the Board of Supervisors expressing the Economic Development Authority's desire to make a change in the tax rate to try to gain business for Accomack County, and to not lose what is currently in the County.

D. Mr. Bloxom, Vice Chairman

Mr. Bloxom reported that there is now a drone runway in the budget for a research testing site at Wallops Island.

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Discussion occurred about the released report on the Chincoteague beach location.

E. Ms. Davis

Ms. Davis informed the EDA that the marketing materials are currently at the printer, and she expects that they will come in at any time. The focus piece concerning women still needs some attention.

F. Ms. Ashby-Hope

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

G. Chairman LeCato

Chairman LeCato has nothing to report at this time.

6. LAWNMOWER PURCHASE

Rich Morrison reported that he asked the County Employee who will be using the equipment the specifications for the machinery they would like to use for the EDA lands. He informed the EDA that the County will handle the procurement; however they would need 3 different quotes.

On a motion made by Ms. Davis and seconded by Ms. Zamora, the Economic Development Authority voted to approve the lowest of the three bids of comparable quotes for a replacement lawnmower.

7. MARKETING STRATEGIES

Ms. Davis stated that she had covered all aspects relating to marketing strategies in her informational report.

8. STAFF REPORT

Mr. Morrison updated the EDA on the status of the potential gas line.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 12, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. in the Airport Conference Room.

10. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Ms. Zamora, and seconded by Ms. Ashby-Hope, the Economic Development Authority voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

John LeCato, Chairman