



GRAND RAPIDS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 13, 2022
4:00 PM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a regular meeting of the Grand Rapids Economic Development Authority will be held in the City Council Chambers in the Grand Rapids City Hall, 420 North Pokegama Avenue, in Grand Rapids, Minnesota on Thursday, October 13, 2022 at 4:00 PM.

CALL TO ORDER

CALL OF ROLL

SETTING OF THE REGULAR AGENDA - *This is an opportunity to approve the regular agenda as presented, or to add/delete an agenda item by a majority vote of the Commissioners present .*

Deletions:

Itasca Economic Development Corporation Annual Update-Tamara Lowney

Additions:

Consider a revised contract with LHB

Consider authorizing payment to First American Title in the amount of \$27,773.25

APPROVE MINUTES

1. Consider approval of minutes from the September 22,2022 regular meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Connelly, second by Commissioner Hodnik to approve the minutes from the September 22, 2022 regular meeting. The following voted in favor thereof: Hodnik, Bruns, Connelly, S. Blake, R. Blake. Opposed: None, passed unanimously.

APPROVE CLAIMS

2. Consider approval of claims in the amount of \$17,870.00.

Motion by Commissioner Connelly, second by Commissioner Bruns to approve claims in the amount of \$17,870.00. The following voted in favor thereof: R. Blake, S. Blake, Connelly, Bruns, Hodnik. Opposed: None, passed unanimously.

BUSINESS

3. Itasca Economic Development Corporation Annual Update - Tamara Lowney

This item was removed from the agenda.

4. Consider approval of Amendment 1 to the professional services contract with SRF Consulting Group for the development of an updated Downtown Plan.

The Blandin Foundation indicated they would consider a request for additional assistance to support expanded public engagement activities. The additional services with labor and expenses is \$13,406.75 with a revised contract amount of \$101,176.00. The grant agreement with the Blandin Foundation will fund the entire amount of the additional services.

Motion by Commissioner R. Blake, second by Commissioner Hodnik to approve amendment 1 to the professional service contract with SRF Consulting Group for the development of an update Downtown Plan.

5. Consider approval of a Blandin Foundation grant for additional public engagement activities in the development of the updated Downtown Plan and authorize the Executive Director to execute the grant agreement.

The Blandin Foundation has approved a second grant in the amount of \$13,400 for additional public engagement activities.

Motion by Commissioner Bruns, second by Commissioner R. Blake to approve a Blandin Foundation grant in the amount of \$13,400 and authorize the Executive Director to execute the grant agreement. The following voted in favor thereof: Hodnik, Bruns, Connelly, S. Blake, Jackson, R. Blake. Opposed: None, passed unanimously.

Consider revised LHB agreement for additional services not to exceed \$9,600.

Motion by Commissioner Connelly, second by Commissioner Jackson to approve a revised agreement with LHB not to exceed \$9,600. The following voted in favor thereof: R. Blake, Jackson, S. Blake, Connelly, Bruns, Hodnik. Opposed: None, passed unanimously.

Consider authorizing payment to First American Title in the amount of \$27,773.25.

Motion by Commissioner Bruns, second by Commissioner Hodnik to approve approve payment to First American Title in the amount of \$27,773.25. The following voted in favor thereof: Hodnik, Bruns, Connelly, S. Blake, Jackson, R. Blake. Opposed: None, passed unanimously.

UPDATES

6. Arbor Wood Project

Staff has had continued meetings with Arbor Wood. The project would create 8 full time positions, they are looking to secure an IRRR Infrastructure grant and equipment loan as well as a MIF grant.

7. Voyageur Capital Group TIF Request

The bid package for the federal EDA infrastructure grant has been approved and bids will be opened on November 3, 2022.

8. Downtown Plan Update

There were two events held for public input and they were both well attended.

Commissioner Hodnik provided an update on the Hwy 2 corridor project- He will be meeting with a professor at UWS to review what a study for this project would entail.

ADJOURN

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.

MEMBERS & TERMS

Rick Blake - 12/31/2022 (with Council term)

Tasha Connelly - 12/31/2022 (with Council term)

Cory Jackson - 3/1/23

Mike Korte - 3/1/24

Wayne Bruns - 3/1/25

Sholom Blake - 3/1/25

Al Hodnik - 3/1/27