

**MINUTES  
CITY OF LONSDALE  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
JULY 17, 2008**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

President Kuchinka called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers at 415 Central St. W.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Pierskalla, Dietz, Furrer, Duban, Kuchinka and Lieske

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Smith

**STAFF PRESENT:**

City Administrator Joel Erickson and City Planner Ben Baker

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Jim Pederson of Illum-A-Nation

**2. AGENDA**

Kuchinka asked if anyone had any additions or deletions to the agenda. A motion was made by Duban and seconded by Dietz to approve the agenda as presented. Vote for: Pierskalla, Dietz, Furrer, Duban, Kuchinka and Lieske Against: None Vote 6-0. Motion carried.

**3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 19, 2008 REGULAR MEETING**

Kuchinka asked if anyone had any addition or deletions to the minutes. A motion was made by Duban and seconded by Furrer to approve the minutes of June 19, 2008 meeting. Vote for: Pierskalla, Dietz, Furrer, Duban, Kuchinka and Lieske Against: None Vote 6-0. Motion carried.

**4. APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER'S REPORT**

Erickson reviewed the June 2008 Treasurer's report. He said that Flicek's Sports Bar & Grill has made their final payment on the Revolving Loan they received. Furrer asked if a double payment was made by Children's Learning and Adventure Center. Duban said no because the loan term was shorted, increasing their monthly payment. A motion was made by Furrer and seconded by Duban to approve the June 2008 Treasurer Report. Vote for: Pierskalla, Dietz, Furrer, Duban, Kuchinka and Lieske Against: None Vote 6-0. Motion carried.

**5. OLD BUSINESS**

a. Discuss EDA Sign Possibility – 4' x 20' LED Sign

Kuchinka said that Wade Fradenburgh was at the last meeting and the EDA thought the proposed location was not the best site. He said he spoke to Great Wrench and they would be willing to lease a portion of their property on Highway 19 to the EDA for the sign. Furrer asked if that location would be allowed under the City's sign ordinance. Erickson said yes but it would need to be approved by the City Council. Duban said leasing land would add to the cost. Kuchinka said regardless, land will need to be leased or purchased. Kuchinka asked what the results of the interest surveys were. Duban said she is waiting until more information is known about the advertising. Furrer said she spoke to several businesses and it all boils down to the cost of advertising. Duban said the EDA has to be cognizant that there are more costs than just installation. Kuchinka asked what the EDA wanted to do next. Duban suggesting dropping the idea. Kuchinka said he would talk to a private party he knows is interested in a venture like this. A motion was made by Furrer and seconded by Duban to discontinue pursuing the sign project. Vote for: Pierskalla, Dietz, Furrer, Duban, Kuchinka and Lieske Against: None Vote 6-0. Motion carried.

b. Update on Proposed Business Park

Erickson said he spoke to the developer yesterday and he plans on submitting landuse applications for (1) a comprehensive plan amendment and (2) rezoning the property. He suggested hold a special meeting with the City Council and Planning Commission to discuss the topic before any public hearings are actually held.

c. Discuss Main Street Lighting and Landscaping Options

Jim Pederson of Illum-A-Nation was present to discuss street lighting options available. He reviewed the different types of poles, fixtures, amount of lighting each light would emit and the Adopt-A-Pole program. Pederson said his company's fee is 8.5% of the project cost. Dietz asked if the current lights could be left and new decorative lights be added. Pederson said you could but it would play tricks on your eyes because your eyes adjust to the darker light. Duban asked what the 8.5% fee included. Pederson said the fee is for a complete design, bid and build project. He said the only task they do not complete is the actual installation. Furrer suggested staying with the thirty (30) foot cobra head style and use most of the City's current brackets, flags, etc. Pederson said that could be done and possibly the same locations. Kuchinka asked if accessory items could be purchased for the current poles. Pederson said yes and the accessory items would be banding. Pederson said the current poles are probably close to the end of their useful life according to the manufacturer. Kuchinka asked if the current poles could be sandblasted and painted. Pederson said a core 10 pole is made to rust and cannot be sandblasted.

Furrer said she drew on the sidewalk areas for at grade planters and feels that might be a viable option. She said the at grade planters are more versatile. There was general discussion on the at grade planters, which the EDA members agreed are more versatile. The EDA members said they like the idea of creating some distinction of the pedestrian ramps compared to the concrete sidewalk. Erickson said the Park Board has budgeted and will be redoing the sidewalk on the south side of Highway 19 and as part of the project, the Park Board also wanted to create distinction between the pedestrian ramps and the sidewalk.

d. Update on Downtown Businesses Signs for Highway 19

Erickson said since the last meeting, he has discussed the project with MnDoT and has been told the signs cannot be located in the State right of way but can be located outside the right of way on private property zoned commercial. Erickson said he would contact several property owners and see if they are interested in allowing the signs on their property and the project will be completed by the next meeting. Furrer suggested contacting Dwayne Tuma to see if he is interested in allowing the sign on his property. She also suggested possibly locating the sign in an alley right of way, owned by the City.

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

a. Presentation by Southern MN Initiative Foundation (SMIF)

Diane Lewis, Business Lending Director for the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) was present at the meeting to review services provided by the SMIF. Lewis reviewed the following programs: (1) Revolving Loan Program; (2) Small Enterprise Loan Fund; (3) Bio Seed Fund; (4) Business Counseling; and (5) High Potential Program.

b. Discuss Ordinance 2008-221 (Central Business District B-3)

Erickson said he wanted to provide the property owners located in the B-3, Central Business District an opportunity to review the B-3 zoning district regulations and anything else on their minds. Erickson reviewed the section of the B-3 zoning regulations that pertains to Conditional Uses, specifically, Residential Uses (apartments). Chris Michael stated that it does not make sense to require paved parking areas when the alley is gravel and in poor condition. Marlys \_\_\_\_\_ said her renters also complain about the condition of the alley. Baker said that the ordinance basically acts like a mini-rental ordinance. Michaels asked if the EDA has any grants or loans available. Erickson said the

application submitted for the Small Cities Development Grant (SCDG) was denied but the EDA has a revolving loan fund, which applications are accepted year round.

**7. OTHER BUSINESS**

a. None

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Lieske and seconded by Duban to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Pierskalla, Furrer, Duban, Kuchinka, Dietz and Lieske. Against: None Vote 6-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 8:37 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator