

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

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

President Furrer called the meeting to order at 7:01 a.m. in the Council Chambers at 415 Central St. W.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Pierskalla, Duban, Kuchinka, Lieske, Furrer, Smith and Dietz

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**STAFF PRESENT:**

City Administrator Joel Erickson

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Mike Thompson

**2. AGENDA**

Furrer asked if anyone had any additions or deletions to the agenda. A motion was made by Smith and seconded by Duban to approve the agenda as presented. Vote for: Pierskalla, Duban, Kuchinka, Lieske, Furrer, Smith and Dietz. Against: None Vote 7-0. Motion carried.

**3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 15, 2007  
REGULAR MEETING**

Furrer asked if anyone had any addition or deletions to the minutes. A motion was made by Smith and seconded by Kuchinka to approve the minutes of November 15, 2007 meeting. Vote for: Pierskalla, Duban, Kuchinka, Lieske, Furrer, Smith and Dietz. Against: None Vote 7-0. Motion carried.

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

Erickson reviewed the Treasurer's Report presented. Duban asked what percentage of the tax levy was dedicated to the EDA. Erickson said approximately seven (7) percent. Furrer asked if the taxes received in December were the same as in July. Erickson replied, yes, with the exception of any nonpayments.

**5. OLD BUSINESS**

a. Property Located at 104 Railway St. NW (Pint Property)

Erickson said he felt the best location for a library was in the future community center on the land the City owns at the intersection of S. Main St. and Idaho St. S. because the City already owns the land and everything could be located in one building. Duban asked what the property owners were asking for a sales price. Erickson said one year ago, they were asking \$150,000.00.

Duban asked if the location for the train would be Pint property and if not, a location is needed. Erickson suggested getting a bottom line price and making a decision. Kuchinka said the EDA needs to get a return on their investment. Erickson said the development of an industrial park should be the focus of the EDA. Kuchinka agreed. Furrer said the City needs land because of prospects coming from the Community Venture Network. A motion was made by Duban and seconded by Pierskalla to table purchasing the Pint property and train. Vote for: Pierskalla, Duban, Kuchinka, Lieske, Furrer, Smith and Dietz. Against: None Vote 7-0. Motion carried.

b. State Museum – Collector Trains

This item was discussed under the previous agenda item.

- c. Review of Small Cities Development Program Grant Public Hearing / Application  
Erickson reviewed the public hearing held at the City Council meeting. Duban asked the cost of the grant proposal. Erickson replied \$6,500.00. Smith stated the City should keep applying for the grant if not awarded this round.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Elect President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer of Economic Development Authority  
Furrer introduced the new members. She stated who currently holds which positions. Furrer recommended Kuchinka as President, Lieske as Vice-President and Erickson as the Secretary/Treasurer. A motion was made by Smith and seconded by Lieske to appoint Kuchinka as President, Lieske as Vice-President and Erickson as Secretary/Treasurer. Vote for: Pierskalla, Duban, Kuchinka, Lieske, Furrer, Smith and Dietz. Against: None Vote 7-0. Motion carried.
- b. Update and Discussion on Community Venture Network (CVN)  
Erickson reviewed the CVN and commented on the session he attended in December. He said it was information and interesting. He reviewed the companies that presented and what incentives and facilities each were looking for.
- c. Updates on New Industrial Park  
Erickson said staff has been meeting with the property owner/developer for a proposed industrial park on the east side of town. The Board stated they wanted the issue to be pursued because the current industrial park is full.
- d. Update on Three Links Care Facility  
Erickson said staff has been meeting with Three Links Care Facility and their developer about constructing a facility in Lonsdale. He said the project is in its preliminary stages but looks like construction will begin in the summer with an opening date of Spring 2009.
- e. Set/Prioritization of 2008 Goals  
Erickson reviewed some the goals the EDA has been working on. Duban suggested a youth center. Smith said the City would not get its money worth. Kuchinka agreed and said the churches should work together on it. Other items discussed included advertising, community education and marketing of the EDA. Lieske suggested each member bring one goal/idea to the next meeting.

Dietz and Pierskalla left the meeting at 8:30 am.

## **7. OTHER BUSINESS**

### Mike Thompson – A4ever Fitness

Thompson said the EDA has no priorities at all regarding downtown and the EDA is focused on an industrial park and the area of Fred's. He stated his concerns about no EDA or Chamber members attending his one-year anniversary and the fact that he has supported all the local businesses over the last year. He commented on the fact that no business owners and many residents do not support the local businesses. He said there is no communication between the City, businesses and the Chamber. Kuchinka said Lonsdale has always been that way. Duban said she understood where Thompson was coming from based on her experiences of running two businesses in Lonsdale over the years.

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Smith and seconded by Lieske to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Vote for: Duban, Kuchinka, Lieske, Furrer and Smith. Against: None Vote 5-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 8:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator