

**CITY OF COLUMBUS  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING  
September 14, 2016**

The September 14, 2016 Economic Development Authority meeting for the City of Columbus was called to order at 6:13 p.m. by President Dave Povolny at the City Hall. Present were EDA Commissioners, Tracie Wilson, Denny Peterson, Mark Daly, Jeff Duraine, and Bill Krebs, Executive Director Elizabeth Mursko, Attorney William Griffith Jr., and Recording Secretary Lorie Lemieux.

Also in attendance: Pat Preiner, Mary Preiner, Jody Krebs

**APPROVAL – MINUTES July 27, 2016 EDA Minutes**

*Motion* by Krebs to approve the Minutes of the July 27, 2016 EDA meeting as written. Second by Wilson. Votes as follows: Wilson – aye; Peterson – aye; Daly – aye; Duraine – aye; Krebs – aye; Povolny – aye. Motion carried.

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

*Motion* by Daly to approve the Agenda as presented. Second by Peterson. Votes as follows: Wilson – aye; Peterson – aye; Daly – aye; Duraine – aye; Krebs – aye; Povolny – aye. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**2017 Budget & 2016 Levy**

The 2017 Budget and Levy were discussed. Mursko highlighted that costs have been incurred for development (surveys, wetland delineation and plat work) and those costs will be come from allocated debt service funds. Wilson inquired if there would be any additional signage created for the quad locations. Funds are available from the marketing line item and Mursko noted that Kathy Anderson will be contacted to prepare concept renderings for the other quadrants to provide to potential developers. Mursko also informed that Holiday withdrew their purchase agreement due to the present market, therefore there will be no land sales for 2016.

*Motion* by Krebs to approve 2017 EDA Budget in the amount of \$85,000.00 and 2016 levy in the amount of \$81,700. Second by Peterson. Vote as follows: Wilson- aye, Peterson – aye, Daly – aye, Duraine aye, Krebs – aye, Povolny – aye. Motion carries.

An EDA Resolution was presented, this is a HRA Levy requesting the levy amount of \$86,000.00 to produce revenue for the Quad 35 land debt service.

*Motion* by Peterson to approve EDA RESOLUTION 16-01. A Resolution Authorizing the Levy of a Special Benefit Levy Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 469.033, Subdivision 6 and Approval of a Budget for Fiscal Year 2017 in the amount of \$86,000.00. Second by Krebs. Vote as follows: Wilson- aye, Peterson – aye, Daly – aye, Duraine aye, Krebs – aye, Povolny – aye. Motion carries.

**OPEN BUSINESS**

**Update – Hotel Development**

Wilson provided a slide presentation of the proposed hotel development on the Running Aces Harness Park property. Wilson stated that this is a preliminary vision. The two buildings (existing casino and hotel) are not connected but accessible through a covered ground level walkway. There

will be an indoor pool with an attached outdoor patio. Wilson informed that they are close to signing an exclusivity agreement with the franchisor, "Grandstay".

**Update – TH97/I35 Bridge Project**

Mursko stated she recently had a conversation with Doug Fisher, and MnDOT approached Anoka County inquiring if they would participate with them in building the 2 lanes for the bridge. Anoka indicated that they would upfront the funds needed to allow 2 way traffic, thus building a bridge and deck on one side, maintaining 2 way traffic and then remove the old bridge and build new bridge therefore creating 2 bridges. However, this does not create the interchange needed.

Griffith shared an update from lobbyist Vessel that the SW Light Rail is now off the table for state funding, however, being that this is an election year, it appears that no-one wants to pursue the issue.

Mursko handed out an updated preliminary drawing of the relocation of CSAH #54 (Freeway Drive). Holiday accepted this recent revision which allows for appropriate access into their facility. However, they are interested in obtaining an easement from the city in exchange for the easement they would like to build a road as they feel they need another access into their facility off of the proposed CSAH#54.

**COMMISSION OPEN DISCUSSION – NONE**

Duraine inquired to Wilson if she had any updates on the bus stops located on the grounds of RAHP. Wilson reported that discussions were made in August for possible winter use. Wilson also reported that the camping for the horseman went fairly well this last year and are looking at possibly expanding for next year.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Treasurer's Report

100 EDA General Fund Loan	\$ (1,007,415.68)
240 EDA Fund	\$ 24,280.96

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** November 9, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion* by Daly to adjourn. Second by Krebs. Votes as follows: Wilson- aye; Peterson – aye; Daly – aye; Duraine – aye; Krebs – aye; Povolny – aye. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lorie Lemieux, Recording Secretary