

Minutes of the Economic Development Advisory Board's February 15, 2024 Meeting

I. Call to Order

Wayne Stephany called the meeting to order. Chuck Goad came in during the reorganization.

Present: Jason Curtis, Jim Kelly, Wayne Stephany, Keith Stone, Lori Kelley

Absent: Rod Zinn

Guest: Tabatha Snodgrass

II. Minutes

Minutes from August 8, 2023, will be on the March 5, 2024 agenda.

III. Action Items

a. Reorganization

Chairperson - Chuck Goad

Motion:

On the motion of Wayne Stephany, seconded by Jason Curtis the Commission moved that Chuck Goad be Chairperson in the reorganization.

Aye: Jason Curtis, Lori Kelley, Jim Kelly, Wayne Stephany, Keith Stone

Nay: None

Vice-Chairperson - Wayne Stephany

Motion:

On the motion of Chuck Goad, seconded by Jason Curtis the Commission moved that Wayne Stephany be Vice-Chairperson in the reorganization.

Aye: Jason Curtis, Lori Kelley, Jim Kelly, Wayne Stephany, Keith Stone, Chuck Goad

Nay: None

Secretary - Jason Curtis

Motion:

On the motion of Wayne Stephany, seconded by Chuck Goad the Commission moved that Jason Curtis be Secretary in the reorganization.

Aye: Jason Curtis, Lori Kelley, Jim Kelly, Wayne Stephany, Keith Stone

Nay: None

b. Set 2024 Meeting Time, Date and Location

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The board members agreed to leave the date, 1st Tuesday, and time, 3:30 p.m. the same and to meet in the Commission Room at City Hall.

c. Neighborhood Exterior Grant Program

Lacey reintroduced the Neighborhood Exterior Grant Project and asked three questions.

1. Are objectives being met or should there be changes?

Prioritize main dwelling units over accessory buildings to increase the value of the home and neighborhood.

Applications open April 1st. There should be a window of opening/closing on the applications and not hold any applications. If there is money left over it could roll over for next year. It was decided that applications should be accepted March 1st for 2024 and Feb 1st thereafter.

Motion:

On the motion of Chuck Goad, seconded by Keith Stone the Commission moved to begin accepting applications March 1st and go until the funds are exhausted, then in 2025 begin February 1st and go until the funds are exhausted.

Aye: Jason Curtis, Chuck Goad, Lori Kelley, Jim Kelly, Wayne Stephany, Keith Stone

Nay: None

2. Should loans be allowed?

The board does not feel that loans for people who do not have the \$5,000 should be allowed.

3. Request City Commission to increase the budget from \$50,000 to \$100,000 for the 2024 budget year by amending the budget.

Motion:

On the motion of Chuck Goad, seconded by Keith Stone the Commission moved to request that the City Commission double the funds for 2024 by amending the City budget.

Aye: Jason Curtis, Chuck Goad, Lori Kelley, Jim Kelly, Wayne Stephany, Keith Stone

Nay: None

IV. Discussion

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- a. Future Planning Needs for County Growth Related to Bartlett & Azure
Chuck Goad, chairperson, asked that the board give thought to what the future planning needs are and bring back to the March 5 meeting.
- b. Broadband: KwiKom inducement agreement
Building on what the board had put together for broadband, when KwiKom approached the City with the proposition to go ahead and put in fiber optic even though the grants did not come through, the City put together a franchise agreement and issued the permits for them to begin underground installation and signed an inducement agreement that the board had previously approved.
- c. Subcommittees
When future planning needs have been brought in and decided on, subcommittees will be put together to build on and bring back to the board.

V. Adjournment

The next meeting will be March 5th. Labette Health turned in document for inducement agreement but have not met the requirements for employees that reside in Independence. Wants to change to Montgomery County rather than Independence.

Motion:

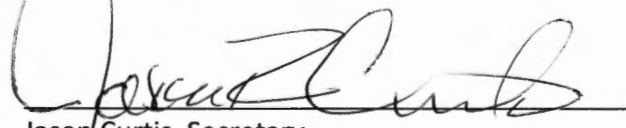
On the motion of Jason Curtis, seconded by Keith Stone the Commission adjourned the Economic Development Advisory Board meeting.

Aye: Jason Curtis, Chuck Goad, Lori Kelley, Jim Kelly, Wayne Stephany, Keith Stone

Nay: None



Chuck Goad, Chairperson



Jason Curtis, Secretary