

MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 17, 2024
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
COMMUNITY ROOM
31555 W ELEVEN MILE ROAD FARMINGTON
HILLS, MICHIGAN

CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN T.R. CARR AT 8:03 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: T.R. CARR, SCOTT ELLIOTT, MARK ZACHOS, FRITZ BEIRMEISTER, EUNICE JEFFRIES, GERRARD ALLEN, CASSIE CLARK, VIVIANNE ROUSSEAU

ALSO PRESENT: Cristia Brockway, Economic Development Director, John Trafelet, Planning Commission Chairman

EXCUSED: M. Brucki, M. Bridges

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Scott Elliott, supported by Fritz Beiermeister to approve the agenda as submitted.
Unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Scott Elliott, supported by Mark Zachos to approve the minutes of December 20, 2023, as submitted.
Unanimously carried.

BUSINESS

Cassie Clark and Vivianne Rousseau was introduced by Chairman T.R. Carr and welcomed to the Economic Development Corporation.

Cristia Brockway, Economic Development Director, discussed her department's budget that was approved by City Council. The Economic Development Department will now have a budget for projects, contractual needs, and training dollars. There were some funds set aside for the Economic Development Corporation in the City Manager's Budget.

Director Brockway discussed that, as a part of her budget, the 12 Mile and Orchard Lake Corridor Study will be a part of her projects. This study will be conducted by a third party to give the City an overall understanding of the current market and how 12 Mile Road, Orchard Lake Road, and a portion of Hills Tech Drive could be researched for future opportunities. That research will be done by means of public input sessions, zoning assessments, and market trends. She also mentioned that as the study completes, a commercial broker could be hired to represent the City and help discuss the findings of the study to

interested investors. Director Brockway briefly discussed that a similar market study is being conducted along Grand River Avenue between Orchard Lake Road and Inkster Road within the corridor district.

Mark Zachos asked if small business and current needs will be addressed in the corridor study. Director Brockway explained that to make the best assessment of our major corridors, the current market will have to be reviewed. Existing business owners and community members will be able to share their neighborhood needs for growth and quality of life.

Eunice Jeffries expressed that Oakland Community College would be interested in participating in the Corridor Study and wanted to invite the City to an event related to job types in demand this September.

Chairman, T.R. Carr, and Scott Elliott discussed how the EDC could assist in the study. Director Brockway mentioned that the EDC will be helpful in supporting the educational efforts of the corridor needs during the public input sessions.

Cristia Brockway finalized her report with reminders that the next meeting will have the election of new officers including a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman briefly mentioned the incubator and his interest on its current direction and the status of the grant provided by the State. Director Brockway noted that the next discussion related to the incubator will be held before Council at the August 12 Council Study Session.

REPORTS

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mark Zachos expressed his desire for the EDC to find more ways to participate in Economic Development efforts overall.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman T.R. Carr at 9:12 a.m.
Unanimously carried.

Minutes Drafted by Cristia Brockway, Economic Development Director