

**VIRGINIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015 – 8:00 A.M.**  
**Council Chambers (Second Floor), Virginia City Hall**

Present: Councillor Dennis Jorgensen, Jim Tieberg, Julianne Paulsen, Rob Marwick, Mike Miskovich-5

Also Present: Accounting Clerk Wendy Summer; City Clerk Pamela LaBine;  
Joe Guertin-3

Absent: City Administrator John Tourville; Councillor Baranzelli, Kim Culbert-Blaeser

**I. Minutes Approval**

President Jim Tieberg called the meeting to order at 8:20 a.m. Moved by Jorgensen supported by Marwick to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2015 meeting.

Motion Carried

Clarification on minutes, Tieberg questioned the utility's, will be affixed to the bridge, fire station using Five Bugles, does design work for the building

**II. Finance Reports**

1. Wendy Summers updated on the following items: Check Register-no bills to be paid, \$925 liability insurance funds, \$96 in the checking still have to pay for UMD for 2015
2. Budget Appropriation Report-as of 8-31-15, nothing changed  
follow up on any questions to see where they are at as far as payments
3. Revolving Loan Fund- Aszendrops, LLC still behind in payments, they made a payment in March, suggested to follow up on this and see where they are.
4. President's Report- there is interest in a mining related business to expand to this area, international mining business to partner with a local entity.

White Drug closing downtown on Chestnut and re- opening in a new facility.

Updated on 4<sup>th</sup> street, looking nice with the new construction, between the new dental clinic and Culligan is an eye sore, the dental clinic does need more parking, they have offered to purchase a strip from Culligan or rent from them, possibly may need a survey, or soil borings, may have some structure

under the ground. Would like to work together and clean up the area. Check with engineering to see what they know about the property.

Progress is being made in the Waschke site area – looking really nice.

Would like to thank John Tourville for the help in the economic development being done in the city.

### **III. New Business**

Julianne Paulsen discussed the request from Vic Barlow of MN Charities, fire marshall issued orders on electrical in the building for items to be fixed. They are interested in obtaining a storefront loan to help in the repair. They don't have much cash flow, it is a non-profit, Marwick updated on the application process, goes to loan committee and then they recommend to the board. Jorgensen wanted to get the project in motion, and moved for the approval

Moved Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Paulsen to approve the storefront loan in the amount of \$10,000. for MN charities The loan falls under the current guidelines.

Motion Carried

Councillor Dennis Jorgensen introduced Joe Guertin, he gave a synopsis to the board of where he is with his business and what he does with building renovations.

Looked at a building located at 101 to 101 ½ a tax forfeit building. There is an open, area on the roof, the building had quite a lot of pigeon feces. He would like to help in the process to clean up some of these buildings. Paulsen noted that it may be appropriate time to get a strategic plan in place for the downtown area. Jorgensen said the city is in the process of doing a comprehensive plan. It all needs to be correlated with all the groups involved. Paulsen would like to have VEDA be a part of this process. The downtown area is thriving. We need to get groups together and outline an area that we want to improve; new business, safety, building upgrades, and involve the city chamber and foundation and get

the plan in place and give input to the city to implement the comp plan. Jorgensen agreed with the idea to get volunteers and get a dumpster to do some clean up in the building at 101 Chestnut. Jorgensen would like to see VEDA give \$10,000 to the HRA program for rental property improvements. Also suggests using \$40,000 towards project development. We have a contact at UMD, we pay for the services and they can help with business plans and grant information.

#### **IV. Old Business/Updates**

1. VEEDA Update: we should look at spending some funds on maintaining the buildings we have. Lundgren motors looking at moving out of their current facility, looking at property VEEDA owns and they may go to that site or rebuild on the current site. Uncertainty on where the highway will be, people trying to make decisions now on what to do. Buildings and Grounds met and discussed the area north of Midway motel, 12.5 acres' land available for sale, purchase agreement in place for the property, contingent upon MN DOT agreeing to a north exit in that area. In the short term could be a place for construction workers to locate during the construction of Hwy 53.
2. City Update.
  - a. Approved 2016 special levy 9-22-15 Resolution 15168 passed by the city

#### **V. Information & Other Items**

Paulsen suggested having Joy Ruedebusch attend a meeting, she is with IRRRB, possibly have a meeting once a month for building/business owners at Paulsen's place of business

Moved by Jorgensen, supported by Marwick to adjourn at 9:30 a.m. Motion Carried

Cc: VEDA Members  
John Tourville, City Administrator  
Sherry Erickson, Finance/Human Resources Director  
Pamela LaBine, City Clerk  
Wendy Summers, Accounting Clerk