

VIRGINIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2016 – 8:00 A.M.
Council Chambers (Second Floor), Virginia City Hall

Members Present: Julianne Paulsen, Michael Miskovich, Jim Tieberg, Tom Bartovich, Dennis Jorgensen, Carl Baranzelli (6)

Others Present: Pamela LaBine, Sherry Erickson, Wendy Summers, Kris Johnson, Bernie Collins, Joe Guertin

I. Minutes Approval (January 7, 2016)

Moved by Tieberg, supported by Jorgensen to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2016 meeting with the corrections. Motion Carried

President Paulson welcomed Tom Bartovich to the VEDA board.

II. Finance Reports

1. Check Register-balance \$663.01

2. Budget Appropriation Report

Wendy Summers updated on the loan status, Jeff Peterson is current,

Aszendrops is four months behind and will try to get current as soon as possible.

Ralston is four months behind.

Moved by Jorgensen, support by Baranzelli to approve the financial reports. Motion Carried

III. President's Report

1. Mark Phillips with the IRRRB was present to talk with the board and to update on things going on in the area. The summit at the Discovery Center is a project called Recharge the Range, their next meeting will be February 29th, and it is a brainstorming session to get ideas from people on how to diversify the Iron Range. They are planning in June a bigger economic summit, do a layout from what was discussed and possibly get the governor to attend. They are trying to attract business, and look at what else is a good fit. They don't tour potential developers anywhere, if we are ready to offer something when potential companies come to the city VEDA needs to be ready. Currently working with Natural Harvest on the request for a building, IRRRB is not in the retail business but will be looking at this as a project to fund. Broadband is a big topic, don't have enough money to fix the problems, but trying to push the providers to be open with their plans, and have them contribute more of the process. Giants Ridge expansion, the new equipment has to do with the downhill skiing; there is a bonding request for a high speed lift, its core infrastructure for the tourism factor. Need to upgrade and promote the area. There is a proposed timeshare project for Giants Ridge, also need hospitality to attract business. The IRRRB is looking at fixing up communities, how they look and function. Looking at more than just water and sewer projects for cities.

Discussed the downtown area and how to improve and what the comp plan will have for improvements and goals. There is a design team that donates their time to come in and do a design of the city and small cost.

IV. New Business

1. Discuss loan application from James Greski, he worked for Legacy Collision, LLC and is interested in using the name and has a facility to start the business. The building that would be purchased, there would be three full time people, and two part-time, Jorgensen said the proposal to us is a request for \$19,000 from VEDA for tools and operating capital, and secure that from the appraisal. He has run the business the last 3 years, the numbers are good.

2.

Moved by Jorgensen, supported by Tieberg to approve a loan of \$19,000.00 to James Greski for Legacy Collision, LLC and get clarification if we can do a 3 month interest only payment. Motion Carried

Moved by Jorgensen, supported Tieberg to amend guidelines for an interest only payments for up to 90 days for any loan request from individuals. Motion Carried

Moved by Jorgensen, supported by Tieberg to rescind the motion approving the loan to Legacy Collision. Motion Carried

Moved by Jorgensen, supported by Tieberg to approve a \$19,000.00 loan to James Greski for Legacy Collision, LLC and to get clarification about a 3 month interest only payment. Motion Carried

3. Business Grants-Dennis Jorgensen presented the committee with information using matching grants. They could use \$50,000 from the VEDA levy. The downtown community foundation has funds, possibly collaborate with them. Need to set guidelines on a Signage ordinance, will have information by the next meeting for discussion and. Suggested forming a committee to set guidelines: Jorgensen, Collins and Tieberg

Moved by Tieberg, supported by Baranzelli to form a committee regarding the matching funds and set guidelines, committee to be Jorgensen, Collins, and Tieberg. Motion Carried

V. Old Business/Updates

1. VEEDA Update.-logging off the Borgan road and won't happen till next winter
2. City Update. Discussed putting the Mine View at the end of main street, the fountain project is in process, there is a CDBG grant available.

VI. Information & Other – FYI

VII. Adjourned at 9:38 a.m. the next meeting will be March 3, 2016 @ 8:00 a.m.