

Economic Development Committee

MINUTES

DECEMBER 16, 2021

7:00 A.M.

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Attendees	Marty Sveinbjornson, CV Sastry, Connie Brown, Dana Wilkins (via Zoom), Don Reed, Councillor Dustin Brears
Staff	Michael Eger (Director of Planning, Building & Development), David Balysky (Business Liaison), Shelby Miller (Administrative Assistant)
Guests	Mayor Mitch Hipsley
Regrets	Councillor Darcy Zaharia, Charles Ryder
Absent	Lonnie Kaal (City Manager), Gaurav Thakur
Recording	Shelby Miller
Call to order	7:06 a.m.
Adjourn	8:40 a.m.

Agenda Topics

Adoption of Agenda

Motion 17-21	SVEINBJORNSON That the Economic Development Committee Agenda be approved. CARRIED.
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Minutes of the May 13, 2021 Meeting

Discussion	Minutes from the May 13, 2021 meeting of the Committee were circulated.
Motion 18-21	BREARS That the minutes of the May 13, 2021 meeting be approved as presented. CARRIED.

Biddingo Electronic Bidding Tool

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">David presented to the group a presentation on the City of Yorkton's Biddingo electronic bidding tool. The presentation highlighted how this electronic bidding creates a fair, consistent, and transparent opportunity for all vendors. He spoke on promotion of social media, and the continuation of vendor training that will be available.A question and answer period followed the presentation and discussion amongst Committee and staff members ensued. Topics discussed included vendor registration and how the City has advertised this new program.
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Residential Construction Incentive

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Michael presented to the group the Draft Residential Construction Incentive Policy that provides applicants constructing either new single-unit or two-unit residential dwellings, a 100% tax refund for a 5-year period starting at the time of building occupancy.• Eger discusses challenges that arise with discounted or tax-free city lots possibly having an effect on private sales and private vacant land taxes.• Members had recommended that contractors be able to put advertisement signs on city-owned empty lots to provide options for buyers and help with possible sales.• Members support giving contractors an opportunity to put a deposit down on city-owned empty lots to build and take a smaller risk to build a spec home and sell as a lot/new build package. This option could include a deadline such as a 1-year timeframe.
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Business Improvement Incentive Program Recap

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• David presented to the group a Business Improvement Incentive Program Recap, which included 7 businesses that have used this program for their exterior upgrades.• A question and answer period followed the presentation and discussion amongst members ensued. Topics discussed included funding and potential applications in year two (2022).• Administration will look into if the remaining funding can be carried over into the New Year.
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Extend EDC meeting invitation to Chamber Executive Director

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• David communicated that Juanita Polegi, Executive Director of Yorkton Chamber of Commerce shows interest to sit in on the Economic Development Committee as a non-voting member.• Discussion amongst members led to extending an invite to YBID, Yorkton Tribal Council, Community Ventures, and any other local committees. Members agree more voices to the Economic Development Committee will be beneficial as a communication tool for our community.
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Call for Committee Membership Renewals

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CV requested membership renewals for 2022.• Members that have agreed to renew memberships are Marty Sveinbjornson, CV Sastry, Dana Wilkins (replacing Connie Brown), and Don Reed.• Mayor Mitch Hipsley will appoint council members.• CV/David will be communicate with Charles Ryder and Gaurav Thakur regarding membership status for 2022.
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Brears exits the meeting at 8:36 p.m.

Next Meeting	Thursday, January 13, 2022 at 7:00 a.m. at City Hall. <i>CV sent regrets for next meeting, chair will be appointed.</i>
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Adjournment	
Motion 19-21	That the Economic Development Committee Meeting be adjourned at 8:40 a.m. Quorum was lost.

CV Sastry
CHAIRPERSON
CV Sastry

Shelby Miller
RECORDING SECRETARY
Shelby Miller