

Economic Development Committee

MINUTES

OCTOBER 8, 2024

7:00 A.M CITY HALL – MEETING ROOM A

Attendees	Chairperson: Bob Knox Councillors: Councillor Darcy Zaharia, Councillor Dustin Brears Members: Gwen Machnee, Raymond Sharp, Don Reed, Ajay Tadi (via Zoom), Marty Sveinbjornson, Ayodele Komolafe (via Zoom)
Invited Guests	Juanita Polegi (Chamber of Commerce), Mayor Mitch Hipsley
Staff	Jennifer Brooker (Business Liaison) Michael Eger (Planning, Building & Development Director) Brad Hvidston (City Manager)
Regrets	Councillors: Members: David McKerchar Guests: Kaitlyn Kitzan (YBID)
Absent	Councillors: Members:
Recording	Michael Eger
Call to Order	7:01 am
Adjourn	8:34 am

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Discussion	Review of agenda items for discussion.
Motion 30-24	Mayor Hipsley To amend the agenda by adding - Update from City Mayor's Caucus Meeting, as item E.4)
Motion 31-24	Marty Sveinbjornson That the agenda be approved as amended. Carried

Minutes of September 19, 2024

Discussion	Minutes from the September 19, 2024 meeting of the Committee were circulated electronically, with the agenda package.
Motion 32-24	Don Reed That the minutes of the September 19, 2024 meeting be approved as presented. Carried

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Yorkton Hospital:

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mayor advises that he has not received any updates. The last update from the Province was that Yorkton is next on the list, and that won't change. There is however, no date established for that.- Councillor Brears states that City has been told the new hospital will still be a "Regional" hospital- Members question if the City can get a contact at SHA or Province to act as liaison. → Mayor and/or City Manager will work at that- Don Reed asks if we can have Health Foundation present to future EDC meeting
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Economic Development Priorities:

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Members would like to revisit EDC priorities list, which was presented by David Balysky this June, prior to him moving positions.- It would also be beneficial to include "Unfinished Business" as an agenda topic for future meetings.
Motion 33-24	Councillor Brears That the Economic Development Committee review and update the Priorities Chart at the following meeting. Carried

NEW BUSINESS

Airport Funding Options:

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Some members of Council and the Chamber of Commerce received an email from an airport business, asking them to consider a regional airport partnership, such as the ones in Kindersley and Moosomin- Michael updates group on work Airport Manager has done, and that work will continue, including a meeting with Kindersley airport. It is also noted that the airport initially became the sole responsibility of the City of Yorkton due to lack of interest and support from neighbouring municipalities.
Motion	None

Yorkton Exhibition Facilities Marketing:

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Juanita would like to see more marketing directed to livestock events, specifically breeders associations.
Motion	None

Marketing of Deer Park and Other Recreational Facilities:

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Chairperson Bob Knox put forward as an agenda item to see if there are ways to increase use and attendance at our facilities- Group reflected on the success of the new clubhouse, year-round food services and availability in winter for Nordic club. It seems that the course is busier than in recent past and trending in a very positive direction.- It was also agreed that marketing of recreational facilities is being well-looked after by other groups and committees, and that EDC will support their efforts going forward.
Motion	None

City Mayor's Caucus Meeting:

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mayor Hipsley provided some confidential updates from a recent City Mayor's Caucus meeting in Regina. He also noted that Yorkton is not alone in the challenges we face, but that we compare well in terms of existing and potential growth opportunities
Motion	None

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Discussion	- Discussed earlier in the meeting (Priorities Chart)
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ACTION ITEMS

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mayor/City Manager to try and establish liaison with SHA or Province as it relates to new Yorkton Hospital- Chair Bob Knox to see if Ross Fisher, Health Foundation Executive Director, can attend and present to EDC at a future meeting.- City staff to return to next meeting with Priorities Chart
Motion	None

NEXT MEETING	- Group agrees to proceed with next meeting, regardless of election results Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 7:00 a.m. at City Hall.
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ADJOURNMENT

Motion 34-24	Don Reed That the Economic Development Committee Meeting be adjourned at 8:34 a.m. Carried
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Bob Knox

CHAIRPERSON
Bob Knox

Michael Eger

RECORDING
Michael Eger