

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, March 27, 2025

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hughes.

Members Present: Brian Hughes, Jim Beal, Brooke Wach, Anthony Dickmeyer, Anthony White, and John Whittington

Staff Present: Administrator Bromeland and Deputy Clerk Rausch

### **Approval of Agenda**

- John Whittington moved, seconded by Tony Dickmeyer, to approve the agenda.

### **Treasurer's Report**

- Administrator Bromeland presented the treasurer's report and explained that money was moved from the checking account to the investment fund to obtain a higher yield.
- The Loan funds can be used as loans to businesses, the Small City Development Program funds must be for rehab purposes, and the EDA funds can be used to acquire land or anything statutorily allowed to promote economic development.

### **New Business**

1. Recap of Recent Business Visit - Harvey and Carpentar Law Firm
  - Anthony White and Jennifer Bromeland met with Harvey and Carpenter Law Firm representatives for a business visit and expressed their appreciation in deciding to locate Eagle Lake. They learned about their business and their wishes for the community. Their focus is working with disability and worker's compensation.
  - They expressed interest in providing a promotional item for the Welcome to Eagle Lake bags.
  - Other businesses to consider visiting include the Chris Willaert Agency, Allied Overhead Door, and SRP Heating

## 2. Update on Legislative Issues and Water Treatment Funding Requests

- Administrator Bromeland and Mayor Whittington provided an update stating they have met with state and federal legislators, and all have expressed support but also expressed concerns about the political environment. Eagle Lake was slated for funding in the State's 2024 bonding bill, but the bonding bill was not passed. Eagle Lake is asking for \$14 million between state and federal funding and several other cities are requesting similar funding as well. It is unsure if there will be a state bonding bill this year.
- The Congressional funding request for 2026 has been submitted.
- Mayor Whittington stated that as a city we have done everything we can to be shovel ready if we get funding. It is to the City's favor to have land acquisition in progress and the fact that the city would contribute to the cost of this project is a benefit when applying for funding.

## 3. Re-Stocking Welcome Bags

- The welcome bags have been well received, and donations are needed to continue this offer to new residents. City Hall staff will work with businesses to obtain more promotional items.
- Discussion included that the EDA could provide promotional items to include as well.
- Brooke Wach moved, seconded by Anthony White, authorizing staff to spend up to \$500 procuring promotional items for the welcome bags on behalf of the EDA. The motion carried.
- The City will include a business listing in the bags.

## 4. Other

- Highway 14 Study Open House will be held April 8th from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. at City Hall. Bolton and Menk will be doing the presentation and will lead discussions about the proposed alternatives from the study. This is an opportunity for the community to provide community feedback.
- Pop Up Food and Coffee Events were discussed with concern whether the minimum required sales amount would be met.
- Administrator Bromeland stated that the City was approached about hosting a circus in Eagle Lake this summer. The Lion's Club has taken this on and will need the City Council to approve the use of public property for this event. The Lion's Club has scheduled this event for Friday, August 1st. This would be a one-day event with two shows.
- Tony Dickmeyer suggested considering the idea of a small amphitheater which would be create an opportunity for bringing people to Eagle Lake and to enhance the quality of life in the community.

- Discussion ensued about commercial buildings around Parkway Avenue and potential rehabilitation.
- A member asked about the availability for the old fitness center to be rented or sold.

### **Adjournment**

Respectfully submitted,

Kerry Rausch, Deputy Clerk