

CITY OF EAGLE LAKE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 29, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Christine Black Hughes, Brooke Wach

MEMBERS ABSENT:

- Anthony White, Jim Beal, Tony Dickmeyer, John Whittington, Brian Hughes,

STAFF PRESENT:

- Jennifer Bromeland, City Administrator; and Olivia Adomabea, Community Development Coordinator.

PUBLIC PRESENT:

- None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

- None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- None

TREASURERS REPORT:

The treasurer's report was presented.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Welcome Newly Hired Community Development Coordinator Olivia Adomabea.
 - Administrator Bromeland introduced the newly hired Community Development Coordinator to commissioners.
 - Administrator Bromeland shared with the Planning Commission that Olivia joined the city of Eagle Lake part time in April and full time in June. Olivia graduated with a bachelor's and a master's degree in urban planning. Olivia worked as a planning intern with Chanhassen and GIS intern with Le Sueur County.
2. Update on Welcome Bag Initiative by the EDA
 - Community Development Coordinator Adomabea gave a summary report on the number of items received for the welcome bag initiative and showed the items to EDA members present. Coordinator Adomabea explained that eight (8) local businesses responded to the

city's mail that was sent out and six (6) submitted item(s) for the initiative. The other two are yet to submit their items and asked when the EDA will want to send out the items received. Coordinator Adomabea also presented a number of bags for the EDA to choose from and stated that two logos had been designed to put on the bag that will be selected by the EDA.

- Commissioner Hughes suggested that the date be discussed at the next meeting when there is a full house and was supported by Administrator Bromeland and further mentioned that she preferred an eco-friendly and biodegradable bag. Commissioner Wach agreed with commissioner Hughes. Commissioner Hughes selected the second logo and noted that the first one would have been preferred if the name of the city could be shown in full. The 'e' for Lake is not showing.
- Commissioner Wach selected the first logo and asked if it could be redesigned to show the full name of the city. Coordinator Adomabea responded in affirmative to commissioner Wach.
- Commissioner Hughes suggested that the 'Lions' sign attached to the logo be taken off and noted that the EDA will not want other local businesses to think that promoting other businesses are promoted.
- Administrator Bromeland asked if it was okay to have 'enjoy your stay' on the logo which she believes made it seem like the person is in the city for a short period of time and not to live or become a resident.
- Commissioner Wach recommended 'Welcome to the neighborhood', 'Glad you are here' or 'Together we build this community' commissioner Hughes added.
A consensus was not reached as a lot of EDA members were absent. Final decision or vote will be made/cast at the next EDA meeting.

3. Discuss Business Retention and Expansion Program

- The Community Development Coordinator Adomabea gave a summary report on reasons why business retention and expansion programs are essential, noting that the program will connect and bridge the gap between the city and local businesses. Coordinator Adomabea mentioned that a letter and a survey has been prepared to be sent to local businesses and recommended that the EDA review it before it is sent out. Coordinator Adomabea, also in her presentation of the report, asked when the EDA will want the letter and survey to be sent out to local businesses and asked for the timeline to be given to businesses to respond to the survey. Coordinator Adomabea further mentioned that one of the goals for the business retention and expansion program is to get connected and stay connected to local businesses and recommended that the EDA assisted with visiting different local businesses every month to discuss how their business is doing. Coordinator Adomabea suggested at least one member of the EDA went with her for the visitation. Also, Coordinator Adomabea asked of the availability of the commissioners and when they will want to commence visitation.
- Commissioner Hughes stated that a two-week timeline to respond to the survey will be enough while suggesting that the names of the businesses be used instead of 'business leaders/entrepreneurs' on the survey. Commissioner Wach agreed with commissioner

Hughes. Commissioner Hughes stated that Tuesdays or Wednesdays in August worked for her while Commissioner Wach stated that July worked for her. Schedule of other members will be determined at the next EDA meeting.

4. Discuss prospective sites and grants available for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations/Infrastructure.

- The Community Development Coordinator Adomabea presented a summary report and findings on EV charging infrastructure, cost, types and location of sites. Coordinator Adomabea explained that EVs are becoming predominant among other types of vehicles hence believed now is the time the city must investigate EV infrastructure. Coordinator Adomabea presented a brief reviewed literature on EV charging infrastructure and identified some prospective sites suitable for the project. Coordinator Adomabea identified the City Hall, Casey's gas station, and City Park as prospective sites for EV charging stations and asked how the city wanted to operate EV charging stations.
- Commissioner Hughes made a reference to an incident regarding the topic under discussion, that South Dakota had Tesla install EV charging stations, with no management and noted that the State had to manage the stations which incurred extra cost and asked how Eagle Lake intended to operate the project.
- Coordinator Adomabea suggested that the city may choose to partner with a private entity to install and operate the charging stations or the city will fully install and operate it both options at a fee per charge.
- Commissioner Hughes asked if the project would serve only residents and what will make someone drive all the way from Mankato to charge their EV in Eagle Lake
- Administrator Bromeland responded by stating that the project can serve both residents and people using highway 14.
- Commissioner Hughes further asked what type of chargers will be installed.
- Coordinator Adomabea responded that most cities usually install level two and three chargers while referencing Mankato, North Mankato and St. Peters and stated that the EDA will have to decide what type of charger to install. Coordinator Adomabea further explained that level four and five chargers are not available in the neighboring cities and that the city can install those ones, even though they are very expensive. Level 5 chargers take 6mins to charge for 100miles and 2mins to replenish daily usage.
- Commissioner Hughes stated that if the city must do this then it must be level 5 which she believes will pull people on the highway to the city to charge for just 6mins. Commissioner Hughes asked where Mankato chargers are located.
- Coordinator Adomabea stated their locations as 1900 Madison Ave, 901 Raintree Rd, 2024 Adams St, 1281 Raintree Rd, 115 S 2nd St, W Rd Lot 11A, 240 Stadium Rd.
- Commissioner Wach suggested the surveys be sent out while the project is discussed in detail at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:45 a.m.