

WATERVILLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
August 24, 2015, 6:00 p.m.

There was a meeting of the Waterville Economic Development Authority held in Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m. on August 24, 2015.

Present: Val Vail, Sue Myers, Sue Cutts, Richard Davis, and Chairperson Stephen Mihalik

Absent: None

Also Present: Administrator/Clerk Teresa Hill

Also Absent: None

1. **Call to Order.** Chairperson Stephen Mihalik called the meeting to order at a field on Highway 13 North of Waterville noting that all EDA members were present. Also present City Administrator Teresa Hill.
2. **Sign Location.** EDA Commissioners looked at different locations to place the Waterville sign by Highway 13 and North Shore Drive North of Waterville.
3. **Recess Meeting to Reconvene at City Hall.** Mayor Mihalik recessed the meeting at 6:10 p.m.
4. **Open Meeting at City Hall.** Meeting was re-opened at City Hall at 6:20 p.m.
5. **Agenda Approval.** Motion by Myers, seconded by Cutts to approve the agenda. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.
6. **Minute Approval – July 27, 2015** Motion by Mihalik, seconded by Myers to approve the minutes of July 27, 2015. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.
7. **Old Business.**
 - A. **Sign Design.** Motion by Mihalik, seconded by Davis to table the sign design until Mr. Schollegderdes can be present. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.
 - B. **Potted Tree Options for Downtown – Cory Culbert.** Ms. Hill had spoke to Mr. Culbert regarding potted trees. Mr. Culbert advised that he would not recommend a potted tree because it would need to be brought in all the time and store it, otherwise it will freeze and have to be replaced. Mr. Culbert suggested something like a tropical hibiscus so you would have the height plus some flowering. Mr. Culbert will provide other ideas that might work. Replacing a hibiscus is a lot less expensive than replacing a tree. Discussion held regarding different cities that have put in trees both in the ground and in pots. Motion by Mihalik, seconded by Vail to table the potted tree option for downtown to a later meeting when Mr. Culbert can provide more information to the EDA. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.
 - C. **Comprehensive Plan.** Comprehensive Plan. EDA Commissioners went through the Linking Recreation and Economic Development plan dated December 2008. The study was completed by the University of Mankato. Discussion held regarding the benefits related to

revitalizing the downtown area. Discussion held regarding the 19 issues identified by the Nominal Group Study. Discussion held regarding different ways to get people to town on Friday or Thursday nights for a community gathering. Commissioners requested that Ms. Hill invite the president of the Chamber, the Lions Club and Lakes Association to attend the next meeting to discuss a community night out.

8. New Business.

A. Pay Request #6 – Mohs Construction. The City’s portion of pay request #6 is \$140,854.47 and the County’s portion is \$42,073.41. Motion by Mihalik, seconded by Cutts to approve Mohs Construction Pay Request #6 in the amount of \$182,927.88. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

9. Public Input – 7:00 p.m.

A. Business Community input for overall appearance of the downtown district.

Mr. Todd Schwartz, President of Frandsen Bank & Trust and Tony Deno of Potential Unlimited were present for the public input. Discussion held regarding what the downtown businesses can do for themselves or for each other to help the overall appearance of the City. Discussion held regarding trees or plants in the downtown area, nuisance properties, and cleaning up the downtown area. Discussion held regarding the first impressions of the downtown area. Discussion held regarding the infrastructure and school system. Mr. Schwartz said that the businesses are not going to spend money if it does not generate revenue. Ms. Cutts suggested that the EDA have a marketing plan with a common goal in mind. Ms. Vail said the community has to get involved in Waterville Pride and get more volunteers. Mayor Mihalik advised that when people call about nuisance properties it will be addressed. The City is working with the County on ways to promote businesses downtown.

10. Adjourn. Motion by Mihalik, seconded by Myers to adjourn. Unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned 7:30 p.m.

Stephen Mihalik, Chairperson

Teresa Hill, Administrator/Clerk