

Proceedings of the Economic Development Corporation Meeting Wednesday, January 8, 2025

A Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) was held on Wednesday, January 8, 2025 at 10:00 A.M. in the Women's Club Room.

- 1. Director Bergman called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
- 2. Recording of the Roll.

	Present			
MEMBER	YES	NO	EXCUSED	NOT EXCUSED
Thorsen, Gina		X	X	
Vacant				
Lehto, Steve	X			
Meyer, Michael	X			
Corcoran, Kim	X			
Raush, Ken	X			
Virshek, Danielle		X	X	
Ackerman-Behr, Glen	X			
Libby, Carolyn	X			
Quorum	6	2	Quorum	

Also Present: Community Development Director Tom Bergman and Community Development Assistant Tim Erickson.

3. Approval of the November 6, 2024 Meeting Minutes.

Motion by Corcoran to accept the meeting minutes. Second by Ackerman-Behr. Motion Carried 6 to 0.

4. Approval of the Agenda.

Motion by Corcoran to approve the Agenda. Second by Raush. Motion Carried 6 to 0.

- 5. Citizens wishing to address the Corporation regarding Items on the Agenda (Three-minute limit): None.
- 6. Citizens wishing to address the Corporation regarding items not on the Agenda (Three-minute limit):
- 7. Items for Discussion and Consideration.

A. Housing.

I. Updated Water Usage Study: Another round of the water usage study was conducted and showed that there are fewer properties that didn't have utilities turned on. A letter to be sent out to the vacant properties to encourage sales or rentals has been created. Acherman-Behr would like to encourage more rentals versus sales. He suggested including property management and real estate companies. City staff will utilize City of Ironwood business licenses to generate the list of agencies or companies. Letters will include specific addresses on the letters and won't be general. The EDC critiqued the letter. The Mi Neighborhood program was discussed.

Motion by Corcoran to recommend to the City Commission to pursue sending letters to the addresses found in the water usage study. Second by Raush. Motion Carried 6 to 0.

- II. Strategic Housing Plan Update: Director Bergman gave a brief update. Staff will send out social pinpoint link to EDC members.
- B. 2025 Goal Setting (Review Goal Setting Process): Director Bergman talked about the 2024 goals below and asked what goals to keep for the coming year. A regional economic development entity and how that fits with the Ironwood Economic Development Corporation was discussed. Curry Park improvements were discussed. Some states are banning the sale of motor homes and the impact to Curry Park was discussed.

(2024 Goals) Housing

- Learn about the role of the Housing Commission.
- Water Study Letter Process.
- Substandard Lot Development.
- Alternative Structure Infill Development (building Code Requirements).
- Short-term rental and long-term rental issues.
- Create easier access to Surplus Property Information.
- Vacant Property Analysis.
- 8. Other Business: Ackerman-Behr talked about the social media marketing class. Raush is working with GCC for management training classes. Hiring event for Ollies was a huge success.
- 9. Next Meeting: February 5, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.
- 10. Adjournment. **Motion** by Raush to adjourn at 11:05 a.m. **Second** by Corcoran. **Motion Carried** 6 to 0.

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Michael Meyer, President

Tim Erickson, Community Development Assistant