

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MEETING MINUTES OF June 15, 2022



MEETING MINUTES City of Berkeley Economic Development Wednesday, June 15, 2022 1:00 P.M.

Virtual Zoom Meeting, 8425 Airport Road, St. Louis, MO 63134

Note: The agenda for this meeting was posted and is in compliance with the Open Meetings Law.

Members Present: Tracy Cole, John Sides, Laura Modrusic-School District Representative

Staff present: James Linhardt-Fire Chief, Joanna Campbell-Public Works Secretary

CALL TO ORDER / DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Chief Linhardt called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm. Quorum established

MINUTES

Approval of May 18, 2022 Economic Development Regular Meeting Minutes.

Laura Modrusic made the **MOTION** to approve the minutes. John Sides **SECONDED** the motion. A voice vote was taken, and the minutes were unanimously *approved* with a voice vote 3:0—Cole, Modrusic, Sides.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

OLD BUSINESS

Case #ED 22-01 – A request from Cheyenne Li for a tax abatement located at 8838 Frost Avenue, Berkeley, MO 63134.

Laura Modrusic made the **MOTION** to take Case #ED 22-01 off the table. John Sides **SECONDED** the motion. A voice vote was taken, and the motion was approved by acclamation.

Chief Linhardt brought forth Case #ED 22-01. Applicant was not present for the meeting.

Modrusic clarified that the Economic Development Commission can only make recommendations to the City Council and that the City Council makes final decisions on cases presented to the Economic Development Commission.

The Commission expressed the need to hire an Economic Development Coordinator and to have regular meetings to discuss economic development in the City of Berkeley.

Modrusic expressed concern in regards to the tax burden the tax payers would be taking on if this tax abatement was approved.

Tracy Cole suggested the applicant propose a 5-year tax abatement with additional funding.

The Commission suggested that the Economic Development fund be utilized in assisting in tax abatement cases to minimize the tax burden on the tax payers.

Laura Modrusic made the **MOTION** to not recommend Case #ED 22-01 for a tax abatement. Tracey Cole **SECONDED** the motion. A voice vote was taken, and the motion was unanimously *approved* with a voice vote 3:0—Cole, Modrusic, Sides.

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NEW BUSINESS:

None

ADJOURNMENT

Commission recommended that either a Commission Member or the whole Commission Board go to the Council Meeting on August 15, 2022 to present suggestions to the Council in regards to hiring an Economic Development Coordinator and utilizing the Economic Development funds.

With no further discussion, Laura Modrusic made the **MOTION** to adjourn. Tracy Cole **SECONDED** the motion. A voice vote was taken, and the motion was ***approved*** by acclamation. The meeting adjourned at 1:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:
Joanna Campbell Public Works Secretary
Recording Secretary

Approved for submittal by:
James Linhardt
Fire Chief

These minutes are subject to the Economic Development Commission approval at their next scheduled meeting.