

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MINUTES
July 10, 2018
Waverly City Hall – Civic Center
7:00 a.m.

A. Call to Order

1. Voting Members Present: Steve Egli, Chairperson
Brittney Diercks, Vice Chairperson
Gary Grace
Crystal Harms
Gene Lieb
Troy Miller
Paula Stevenson
- Voting Members Absent: Mark Hanawalt
Deb Schroeder
- Non-Voting Partners Present: Ed Klamfoth, W-SR Schools
Heidi Solheim, Waverly Health Center
Darrel Wenzel, Waverly Utilities
- Non-Voting Partners Absent: Linda Allen, Hawkeye Community College
Jim Atty, Waverly Health Center
Darrel Colson, Wartburg
Dan McKenzie, City Council Liaison
Dean Soash, Mayor
- Staff Present: Travis Toliver, Waverly Chamber
James Bronner, City Administrator
Connie Tolan, Economic Development Specialist
Bill Werger, Economic Development Director

Crystal Harms was welcomed as a new member of the Commission.

2. Approval of Agenda:

Motion By: Lieb Seconded By: Diercks

Move that the agenda be approved as printed.

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 2

3. Approval of Previous Minutes:

Motion By: Stevenson Seconded By: Miller

Move that the minutes of the June 12, 2018 Economic Development Commission Meeting be approved.

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 2

B. Regular Business

1. Update and Status Report on Workforce Recruitment Initiatives

Tolan provided an update on 6 workforce recruitment initiatives staff has been working on in collaboration with employers, educators and others. Those being: 1) Providing community tours for potential new hires; 2) Creating a Quality Pre-Apprenticeship program in manufacturing; 3) Researching companies who offer transportation for employees; 4) Planning a Manufacturing Week community event; 5) Creating a Waverly quality of life marketing plan; 6) Addressing child care needs in the community.

2. Economic Development Presentation

Werger gave a presentation on various economic development topics including Waverly's Economic Development Strategy, Waverly's Urban Renewal Plan, Tax Increment Financing, Urban Revitalization Plans, RISE grants and other economic development tools.

3. Housing Update

Tolan provided a housing update that included statistics on residential property listings, residential lot inventory and building permit activity. Commission members discussed factors influencing housing activity such as interest rates going up, increased interest in remodeling, and a strong residential home sale environment.

4. Updates from Participants

- Darrel Wenzel provided an update from Waverly Utilities. Telecom activity is going strong. Utility billing transitioned from City Hall to Waverly Utilities on July 1st. The communities of Bellevue and Indianola have joined the partnership between Waverly Utilities and Cedar Falls Utilities, resulting in funds coming back to those entities.
- Hawkeye Community College will be closing its Waverly Outreach Center effective July 31, 2018, due to low volume of students using the facility. HCC cited the very strong programming at W-SR High school, and industry training typically occurring onsite rather than at the Outreach Center as factors contributing to less need for the facility, although their commitment to partnering with Waverly businesses and W-SR Schools for training and education remains strong.

C. Old Business

None

D. New Business

None

E. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 14, 2018 at Waverly City Hall.

F. Adjournment

The Economic Development Commission meeting was adjourned.