

IDA Meeting Minutes
April 16, 2025
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The Town of Orange Industrial Development Authority (IDA) held a meeting at 5:15 p.m., in the Town of Orange Community Meeting Room. Members present were Mrs. Dana C. Amos, Mr. Pat McAloon, Mr. Kevin Reynolds, Sr., and Mrs. Martha B. Roby. Staff members present were: Director of Finance/Treasurer Dianna Gomez, Deputy Town Clerk/Secretary Kimberly Strawser, CZA/CMC, and Town Attorney Catherine Lea. Chairman Robert Higginbotham, Vice-Chairman Harry C. Mason, Jr., and Steve Sylvia were absent.

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Martha B. Roby called the meeting to order. The Deputy Town Clerk/Secretary called roll and noted that there was a quorum present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Mr. McAloon, to adopt the amended agenda, as presented. On vote, Chairman Higginbotham – absent, Vice-Chairman Mason – absent, Mrs. Amos –aye, Mr. McAloon – aye, Mr. Reynolds – aye, Mrs. Roby – aye, and Mr. Sylvia – absent. The motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

CONSIDERATION OF IDA MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 19, 2025

A motion was made by Mr. McAloon, seconded by Mr. Reynolds, to adopt the meeting minutes of March 19, 2025, as presented. On vote, Chairman Higginbotham – absent, Vice-Chairman Mason – absent, Mrs. Amos –aye, Mr. McAloon – aye, Mr. Reynolds – aye, Mrs. Roby – aye, and Mr. Sylvia – absent. The motion carried.

TREASURER REPORT

The Treasurer reported for the month of March. The Treasurer reported a profit of \$107.00 of interest income an expense of \$23 for supplies. The Treasurer reported that \$105,548 was in the Truist checking account. The Treasurer reported further that there was \$105,000 in the CD at Blue Ridge Bank and \$17,000 was restricted cash for Façade Grants.

Mr. Reynolds asked what the interest rate was on the CD. The Treasurer reported that the rate was 4.2% at Blue Ridge Bank. A brief discussion was held.

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CONSIDERATION/DISCUSSION OF CHANGING THE MEETING DATE OF THE IDA

The Secretary reported that the Economic Development Manager was appointed by Town Council to the County's EDA and they meet on the same day as the IDA. The Secretary stated that Town Council requested that the IDA consider moving their meeting date in order for the Economic Development Manager to be able to attend their IDA meetings.

After discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Amos, seconded by Mr. McAloon, that the IDA move their meeting date to the first Tuesday of each month at 5:15 p.m. On vote, Chairman Higginbotham – absent, Vice-Chairman Mason – absent, Mrs. Amos –aye, Mr. McAloon – aye, Mr. Reynolds – aye, Mrs. Roby – aye, and Mr. Sylvia – absent. The motion carried.

CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF CRITERIA FOR IDA INCENTIVES

The Town Attorney reported that she provided the IDA with DRAFT incentive/guidelines for their review and discussion.

Mr. Reynolds thanked the Town Attorney for the information. Mr. Reynolds stated to keep the incentive simple, and it would be successful. Mr. Reynolds stated further that he was in support of any new business, in business for a year they would receive \$5,000.

Mr. McAloon stated he agreed with Mr. Reynolds that simple was good. Mr. McAloon requested that the IDA choose one of the proposed incentives provided by the Town Attorney and discuss it further. Mr. McAloon stated that he really liked the job incentive grant and tied that to a certain percentage above the minimum wage.

Mrs. Roby stated that she liked the idea of rewarding a business and was in favor of the job incentive grant.

Mrs. Roby suggested that the Façade Grant amount be increased. The Treasurer stated that it may be possible for the Town to increase their Façade Grant amount, and the IDA would match the amount. The Town Attorney clarified that the IDA may increase the amount of the Façade Grant anytime, that it did not need to be the same amount as offered by the Town.

Mrs. Amos liked the idea of increasing the Job Creation Grant amount from \$1,000 to \$1,500.

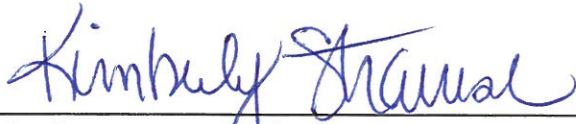
After lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the IDA to have the Town Attorney develop criteria for discussion points for the Job Creation Grant and the New Job Grant for review at their next meeting. The Town Attorney requested that if the IDA had any other input to email her that information.

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NEXT MEETING

The next IDA meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 6th, at 5:15 p.m.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.



Kimberly Strawser, CZA/CMC
Deputy Town Clerk/IDA Secretary