

IDA Meeting Minutes
May 18, 2022
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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, Chairman Robert Higginbotham, Vice-Chairman Mr. Harry C. Mason, Jr., Mrs. Dana C. Amos, Dr. Dena Jennings, and Mr. David Rutt. Staff members present were: Town Manager/Treasurer Greg Woods, Deputy Town Clerk/Secretary Kimberly Strawser, CMC/CZA & Town Attorney Catherine Lea. Mr. Kevin Reynolds and Mr. Steve Sylvia were absent.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Higginbotham called the meeting to order. The Secretary called roll and noted that there was a quorum present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion was made by Vice-Chairman Mason, seconded by Mr. Rutt, to adopt the agenda, as presented. On vote, Chairman Higginbotham– aye, Vice-Chairman Mason – aye, Mrs. Amos – aye, Dr. Jennings – aye, Mr. Reynolds – absent, Mr. Rutt – aye, and Mr. Sylvia – absent. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF IDA MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 21, 2022

The Secretary stated that in the minutes as of April 21st that Greg Woods title would reflect as Treasurer and her title would reflect as Secretary. Motion was made by Vice-Chairman Mason, seconded by Mr. Rutt, to adopt the meeting minutes of April 21, 2022, as amended. On vote, Chairman Higginbotham– aye, Vice-Chairman Mason – aye, Mrs. Amos – aye, Dr. Jennings – aye, Mr. Reynolds – absent, Mr. Rutt – aye, and Mr. Sylvia – absent. The motion carried unanimously.

UPDATE ON FY2023 TOWN FUNDING

The Treasurer reported that Town Council passed the budget on Monday, May 16th and the FY2023 IDA funding is \$75,000 and would be available July 1st.

CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF USE OF IDA FUNDS

Discussion continued on the use of the IDA Funds. The Treasurer stated that he had spoken to VRT, and they were interested and seemed open to expand the TOOT Route for the restaurants, hotels and Bed & Breakfast. Vice-Chairman suggested a “test” drive of the proposed route and to poll the restaurants, Bed & Breakfast and Woodberry to see if there was interest. The Treasurer suggested to do some marketing/advertising. The Town Attorney appeared before the IDA to discuss website design/marketing. The Town Attorney stated that Lynchburg’s EDA had a website that promotes grant programs, applications, etc.

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A brief discussion was held on loans verses grants. The Town Attorney stated there would need to be criteria set for grants verses loans. Dr. Jennings suggested to come up with questions to ask the Bed & Breakfast and restaurants. Chairman Higginbotham stated he would email the members of the IDA discussion points to discuss with the Bed & Breakfast and restaurants to see if there was interest.

The Treasurer asked the Town Attorney to email the members of the IDA the link to Lynchburg EDA website.

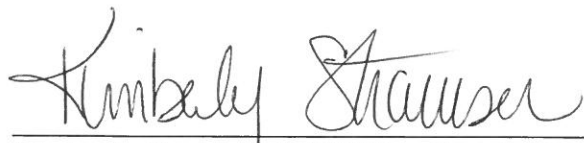
Chairman Higginbotham requested that the Treasurer get the cost from Virginia Regional Transit (VTR).

Chairman Higginbotham also asked the members of the IDA to brainstorm on ideas for the use of funds before their next meeting.

NEXT MEETING

The IDA next meeting will be held on June 15th at 5:15 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m.



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