

City of Evansville **Economic Development Committee**
Regular Meeting
Monday, January 22nd, 2024, 6:00 PM
City Hall, 31 S. Madison Street, Evansville, WI 53536

MINUTES

1. Call to Order.

2. Roll Call:

	Present/Absent	Others Present
Chair James Brooks	P	Com. Dev. Director Colette Spranger
Ben Ladick, Vice Chair	P	Shawn Dunphy, Evansville Chamber of Commerce
Jon Alling	P	James Otterstein, Rock County Economic Development
Sue Berg	P	
Brandon Rutz	P	
Pat Carr	P	
Vacant		

3. Motion to Approve Agenda, by Ladick, seconded by Alling. Passed unanimously.

4. Motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the January 22nd, 2024 by Ladick, seconded by Alling. Passed unanimously.

5. Civility Reminder. Brooks reminded the committee of the City’s commitments to civil discourse.

6. Citizen Appearances, other than listed agenda items. None.

7. New Business.

A. Potential Media Opportunity with Janesville Gazette

Spranger discussed the possibility of having a two-page spread within the Janesville Gazette talking about tourism and events within Evansville.

8. Monthly Reports

A. Community Development Update. General Engineering will be taking over inspection and permitting services for commercial and residential projects while the city is updating things with DSPPS. Alex Kienbaum was hired by the city to perform code enforcement services and will eventually become the City Inspector once all certifications are obtained. TIF10 was created on January 10th for the CHS project. Other businesses of various sizes have contacted the city regarding looking for spaces in the city. Permit approvals were higher in 2023 but they were smaller projects than the previous year.

B. Chamber Update. Membership renewals were sent out in December, a few new members were added to the Chamber. Hop Garden has a lot of events planned. The

bowling tournament is coming up on February 9th and 10th. The Chamber is working with a podcast to highlight businesses. No board meeting was held in December.

- C. Tourism Update.** The five ladies murals will be put up in a new location in the spring. Nancy Nelson will be attending a webinar on maximizing murals. Tourism's next meeting is on February 8th, 2024.

9. Discussion

A. 2023 Goal Recap

- i. **Visiting Local Businesses**, not met to extent that was desired.
- ii. **Redevelop EDC Portion of Website**, not met
- iii. **Redevelop BIG and Revolving Loan Fund** BIG is going through Common Council next month. It was decided that the Revolving Loan Fund best kept the way it is for the moment.
- iv. **Develop Master Plan for Highway 14 Corridor** Pending CHS development.
- v. **Providing Opportunities for new businesses in Evansville** There is more that could be done for smaller businesses.

B. 2024 Goal Setting, Continued

- o The group present went through Goals 5 and 6
- o From Goal 5: Create a supportive environment for entrepreneurship, objective 1 was discussed as needing to be worked on and needing to identify physical locations for new businesses as well as directing people to resources such as the Janesville Innovation Center.
- o From Goal 6: Emphasize improvements within City's economic development corridors, the corridors listed in objectives 1 to 5 were all discussed as needing attention for future developments and support for existing proposed developments.

10. Next Meeting Dates:

- A. Regular Meeting: Monday, March 18th, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

11. Motion to Adjourn by Berg, seconded by Rutz. Passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at

7:13pm.