

City of Evansville **Economic Development Committee**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 6:00 PM**  
**City Hall, 31 S. Madison Street, Evansville, WI 53536**

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order. 5:59 pm**

**2. Roll Call:**

	<b>Present/Absent</b>	<b>Others Present</b>
Chair James Brooks	P	Com. Dev. Director Colette Spranger
Sue Berg	P	Shawn Dunphy, Evansville Chamber of Commerce
Jon Alling	P	James Otterstein,
Paul Liesse	P	Jeff Stevens, VP WRCATV Club
Brandon Rutz	P	Gene Heimann, Resident
Pat Carr	A	
Joe Geoffrion	P	

**3. Motion to Approve Agenda by Geoffrion, seconded by Liesse. Passed unanimously.**

**4. Motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024, by Berg, seconded by Liesse. Passed unanimously.**

**5. Citizen Appearances, other than listed agenda items.**

Jeff Stevens, the Vice President of the WRCATV Club spoke ab out a 2023 economic impact report regarding the impact of ATV riders on local economies, stating that they had a \$5.43 billion economic impact in 2023. Stevens argued that Evansville’s revenues would benefit from allowing ATVs on city streets.

**6. New Business**

**A. Welcome from Bronna Lehmann, Director of Eager Free Public Library**

Lehmann came from Belleville and partnered with the Chamber of Commerce as a member of their EDC. Lehmann enjoyed the outreach aspect of her old job. Committee members asked about existing programs and what can be done with existing programs or whether they could/should be expanded.

**B. Officer Election**

**Brooks nominated by Berg, seconded by Liesse, passed unanimously.**

**7. Monthly Reports**

**A. Community Development Update.**

- i.** Energy Independence Team met and is working on implementing energy plan goals.

- ii. Plan Commission discussed concept plans for Culver's and fore Lot 7 of the Historic Standpipe Point
- iii. CSM was recorded for CHS site; this triggers the land use, zoning, site plan, and conditional use approvals for the site
- iv. Wisconsin State Journal published article regarding Evansville's housing issues
- v. Special Plan Commission meeting scheduled for May 28<sup>th</sup> for Windmill Ridge, first addition plat. City is looking to enable further density of future buildable lots.

**B. Chamber Update.**

- i. The chamber had four ribbon cutting events in May.
- ii. The chamber reached out to a company that creates a tourism website.

**C. Tourism Update.**

- i. Tourism Commission does not meet in May, they meet on even numbered months.
- ii. Mural #1 will be mounted this summer on the building that houses Weirido Thrift. Nancy Nelson and Sue Berg are seeking an installer for the project. Mural #2 artist is working on final touches for the Art Crawl.

**D. Rock Ready Index**

- i. There is a tight labor market in Rock County with employers doing more with less
- ii. Home starts increased 23% from last quarter

**8. Old Business.**

**A. Job Fair Planning**

- i. Spranger has been in contact with Southwest Wisconsin Workforce Development Board regarding assistance and resources for the job fair.
- ii. Job seekers are looking for better jobs and housing opportunities

**9. Discussion**

**10. Next Meeting Dates:**

- A. Regular Meeting: Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

**11. Motion to Adjourn by Berg.**