

City of Evansville **Economic Development Committee**
Regular Meeting
Monday, November 18th, 2024, 6:00 PM
City Hall, 31 S Madison Street Evansville, WI 53536

MINUTES

1. Call to Order. 6:01 pm by Brooks

2. Roll Call:

	Present/Absent	Others Present
Chair James Brooks	P	Com. Dev. Director Colette Spranger
Sue Berg	P	Shawn Dunphy, Evansville Chamber of Commerce
Jon Alling	P	Nate Perry, School District Administrator
Paul Liesse	P	James Otterstein
Brandon Rutz	P	
Pat Carr	P	
Joe Geoffrion	P	

3. Motion to Approve Agenda with addition of item 8 D, Rock Ready Index . Motion by Geoffrion, seconded by Alling. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the October 21st, 2024 regular meeting, motion by Geoffrion, seconded by Alling, motion carried unanimously.

5. Civility Reminder

6. Citizen appearances, other than listed agenda items

7. New Business

A. Debrief from 10/23 Job Fair

Spranger discussed the turnout. Creekside was a great location for the event, and we will plan to host it there again next year.

B. Evansville Water and Light Community Fund Discussion

A portion of the funds go towards Economic Development, other funds go to commitment to the community. Discussion was held regarding possible suggestions for uses for Economic Development. A sign for the Chamber of Commerce was discussed as a possible use.

C. Discussion Items for 1/29/2025 WEDC Downtown Roundtable at Emma’s Table

Discussion items for the roundtable could include how to get commuters to the downtown, customer service on Main Street, and how to know if events are working.

D. Committee Goals for 2025

The Committee reviewed the 2024 goals and spoke about changes for 2025. A top item that didn’t get done in 2024 is visiting local businesses, which should be a main focus for 2025. Discussion was also held regarding improvements to the grant writing process. Partnering with the library for better use of their business center is also a possibility.

8. Monthly Reports

A. Community Development Update. Spranger summarized recent and ongoing activities, including updates on Kwik Trip, Culver's, and CHS.

B. Chamber Update. Dunphy provided updates about business happenings and upcoming community events, including Olde Fashioned Christmas and Small Business Saturday.

C. Tourism Update.

Tourism does not meet in November. The proposed 2025 budget was approved by Common Council. A subcommittee for developing a website to promote tourism had their first meeting.

D. Rock Ready Index

Hiring activity remained static. Housing prices were at an all-time high in the 3rd quarter. Sales tax revenue was also at an all-time high.

9. Old Business.

10. Discussion

A. 2025 Meeting Dates

11. Next Meeting Dates:

A. Regular Meeting: Monday, December 16th, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

12. Adjourn. 7:24pm.