



City of Blaine Anoka County, Minnesota Minutes - Final

Blaine City Hall
10801 Town Sq Dr NE
Blaine MN 55449

EDA

The purpose of the Blaine Economic Development Authority is to increase the City's commercial/industrial tax base, provide employment opportunities, undertake redevelopment to enhance and maintain neighborhood economic stability, and address special needs, such as senior housing. As authorized under Minnesota State statutes, the Blaine City Council also serves as the Blaine Economic Development Authority.

Thursday, March 7, 2019

7:15 PM

Council Chambers

1 **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by President Ryan followed by the Roll Call.

2 **Roll Call**

Quorum Present.

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Clark Arneson; Planning and Community Development Director Bryan Schafer; Public Works Director Jon Haukaas; Police Chief/Safety Services Manager Brian Podany; Finance Director Joe Huss; Economic Development Coordinator Erik Thorvig; Public Services Manager/Assistant City Manager Bob Therres; City Engineer Dan Schluender; Senior Engineering Technician Jason Sundeen; and City Clerk Catherine Sorensen.

Present: 7 - President Ryan, Commissioner Swanson, Commissioner Jeppson, Commissioner Garvais, Commissioner Robertson, Commissioner Paul, and Commissioner Hovland

3 **Minutes**

3-1 **[MIN 19-10](#)**

JANUARY 17, 2019 EDA MINUTES

Moved by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Garvais, that this Minutes be Approved. The Motion was adopted unanimously.

4 **New Business**

4-1 **[EDA RES 19-02](#)**

GRANTING A FUNDING REQUEST FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENTS AT THE NATIONAL SPORTS CENTER FOR THE 3M OPEN

Economic Development Coordinator Thorvig reviewed that on June 19, 2014 a Resolution was adopted by the City Council approving a Conditional Use Permit to allow the National Sports Center (NSC) to develop 10 soccer fields, 4 rugby fields, 6 lacrosse fields, and parking facilities on 75 acres north of 105th Avenue.

The approval required the NSC to address several issues prior to construction that related to pedestrian movements, storm water management, landscaping, and maintenance facility relocation. At the time, the improvements were unfunded and the NSC needed to obtain funding from the State Legislature. The NSC estimated the overall project cost to be approximately \$7.5 million. Staff presented the summary provided by the NSC as to their financial expenditures and requests to complete the overall project. He explained that as part of the 3M Open golf tournament, the NSC has agreed to allow the 3M Open to use the facility during the tournament for general spectator parking. There are 4,700 paved and 1,170 gravel stalls available at the NSC. Parking at the airport and TPC will be available for players, caddies, VIPs, media, etc.

Economic Development Coordinator Thorvig explained the tournament has requested Anoka County and the City split the cost for paving the gravel parking lots and roadway at the NSC prior to the 2019 3M Open. The estimated cost for the entire parking improvements is over \$1 million. It was noted that several meetings have been held to discuss whether it is feasible to construct the improvement prior to the 2019 tournament and if there is interest by Anoka County and the City to split the costs for said improvements. It was determined that it made the most sense to proceed with a project that included only paving the interior roadway between 109th and 105th Avenues and regrade the gravel parking lots.

Economic Development Coordinator Thorvig stated Anoka County and the NSC hired SRF Consulting Group to prepare plans and a cost estimate for paving the road. The engineer's estimate is \$357,400 and the tournament has requested that Anoka County and the City split the cost, which would equate to \$178,700 each. If approved, the project would be bid and managed by Anoka County and completed prior to the tournament. He explained the City's share could be funded by the EDA's general fund.

President Ryan stated he would like to see this project completed as he believed it may assist in improving the safety of traffic turning onto 109th Avenue.

Commissioner Swanson indicated he had concerns with the City funding this project given the fact the NSC was a State facility. He explained he could support the paving of the roadway given the fact it may improve vehicular safety, but noted he would like to see the NSC or the State paying to pave the parking lots.

Moved by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Robertson, that EDA Resolution No. 19-02, "Granting a Funding Request for Road Improvements at the National Sports Center for the 3M Open," be approved.

Motion adopted unanimously.

None.

None.

6 Adjournment

Moved by Commissioner Hovland, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

Motion adopted unanimously.