

**OSSEO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
June 12, 2023**

1. ROLL CALL

Commissioner Schulz called the regular meeting of the Osseo Economic Development Authority to order at 6:00 p.m., Monday, June 12, 2023.

Members present: Teresa Aho, Deanna Burke, Ashlee Mueller, Kenny Nelson, and Mark Schulz.

Members absent: Duane Poppe.

Staff present: Executive Director Riley Grams and City Attorney Mary Tietjen.

Others present: Becky Weidenbach, City Resident; Karen Ruzicka, City Resident; James Kelly, City Resident.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**A motion was made by Mueller, seconded by Aho, to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion carried 5-0.**

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – APRIL 10, 2023

**A motion was made by Mueller, seconded by Aho, to approve the minutes of April 10, 2023, as presented. The motion carried 5-0.**

4. MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR – None

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

6. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Grams presented the EDA Accounts Payable listing.

**A motion was made by Schulz, seconded by Aho, to approve the Accounts Payable. The motion carried 5-0.**

7. OLD BUSINESS – None

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM PRESENTATION

Grams stated the City of Osseo participates in Hennepin County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and has used the grant opportunity in previous developments, most notable on the 5 Central Apartments project. Community Development Block Grants allow local governments to address a variety of local community development needs. Hennepin County allocates CDBG program funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to suburban Hennepin County cities and service providers. Eligible applicants include government agencies, community-based organizations, tribal organizations and nonprofit organizations. Staff has invited Tonja West-Hafner from Hennepin County to make a presentation on the County's Community Development Block Grant program, and to discuss how the City of Osseo can leverage these grants funds.

Tonja West-Hafner, Hennepin County's Program Analysis Supervisor, thanked the EDA for their time. She provided background information on the County's CDBG program and reviewed the eligible activities for CDBG funding. She described who gets CDBG funding noting \$3 billion was distributed nationally to cities with a population over 50,000. She commended the City for taking advantage of the pooled CDBG funding.

Nelson asked if the City could use CDBG funds to demolish homes in order to make way for a City park. He questioned if CDBG funding could be used to remove the lead paint on the City water tower. Ms. West-Hafner reported the homes in need of demolition would have to reach a slum or blight condition in order to use CDBG funding. She indicated the park would be eligible for funding noting an environmental review would be required. She commented the water tower would be a more difficult task and suggested the City pursue historical preservation dollars for this project.

Schulz thanked Ms. West-Hafner for her presentation.

#### B. UPDATE ON EDA COMMISSIONER OPENING

Grams stated that former City Councilmember and EDA Commissioner Harold Johnson resigned at the May 8 City Council meeting. The Council will be appointing Ashlee Mueller to fill the remaining term on the City Council. Ashlee will conduct her Oath of Office on Monday night during the Council meeting. With Harold's resignation, his seat opens up on the EDA (for a vacant Councilmember position). The Council will ultimately decide how to handle this opening, but it's likely that Ashlee will simply move over to occupy the vacant EDA seat for a Councilmember, which would then open up a vacant EDA resident seat to be filled by any interested Osseo resident. The Council will decide this on Monday night during their 7:00 pm meeting. No action required on this agenda item.

#### 9. REPORTS OR COMMENTS: Executive Director, President, Members

Nelson asked how long the City had to spend the TIF dollars. Grams reported this was either until the end of 2024 or 2025.

Nelson requested Staff provide him with information on the number of affordable housing units in Osseo.

City Attorney Tietjen reported the State legislative session wrapped up. She noted she was preparing a presentation on the new cannabis law and this would be presented to the City Council at their next meeting.

10. ADJOURNMENT

**A motion was made by Mueller, seconded by Aho, to adjourn at 6:42 p.m. The motion carried 5-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Guenther  
*Minute Maker Secretarial*