

CITY OF ANTIGO
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD
MARCH 04, 2019

Economic Development Committee of the City of Antigo met in Regular Meeting on the above date at 6:00 PM in the Multi-Purpose Room, City Hall, Mayor Bill Brandt presiding.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Tom Bauknecht	Alderperso, Ward 4	Present	
Glenn Bugni	Ward 7	Absent	
Reinhardt Balcerzak	Ward 8	Present	
Bill Brandt	Mayor	Present	
Andrew Hessedal	Member	Present	
Gary Voytovich	Member	Present	
Brad Henricks	Member	Present	

Others in attendance: Pam and Bob Frei, Wild Epitome; Angie Close, Langlade County Economic Development Corporation; and Jaime Horswill, Lead Office Assistant.

Discussion and Action May Occur on Any of the Following Agenda Items:

1. Approval of the Minutes from the December 3, 2018 Meeting

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Brad Henricks, Member
SECONDER:	Gary Voytovich, Member
AYES:	Bauknecht, Balcerzak, Brandt, Hessedal, Voytovich, Henricks
ABSENT:	Glenn Bugni

2. Request from Wild Epitome for Partial Payment of Entrepreneur Grant for \$4,806.84 Based on Completion of Phase 1

Angie Close, Langlade County Economic Development Corporation, provided before and after pictures of Wild Epitome's basement, which completes Phase 1 of their project to begin production. Phase 2 will be the retail portion. Because of the cost of Phase 1, they are requesting a partial payment of \$4,806.84.

Alderperso Balcerzak commented that the basement looks fantastic.

Bob Frei, Wild Epitome, advised that he has 60 gallons of wine producing right now and another 60 gallons will enter production tomorrow.

Mr. Frei indicated that they are hopeful for a soft opening Memorial Day. Architectural plans, engineering plans and acceptance by the State is mandatory. They do have a state review date of March 29, 2019. If approved, they can begin construction.

Upon inquiry by Alderperso Bauknecht, Ms. Close advised that the initial Entrepreneur's Grant was approved for \$15,350.

Mayor Brandt indicated that typically payment is not made on an Entrepreneur's Grant until it is open for business. However, they are manufacturing at this time.

Motion to approve the request from Wild Epitome for partial payment of Entrepreneur Grant for \$4,806.84 based on completion of Phase 1.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Reinhardt Balcerzak, Ward 8
SECONDER:	Andrew Hessedal, Member
AYES:	Bauknecht, Balcerzak, Brandt, Hessedal, Voytovich, Henricks
ABSENT:	Glenn Bugni

3. Review & Update of the City's Entrepreneur Grant Program Including a Historical Summary - Information Only

Ms. Close provided Committee members with a summary of the program funding.

Mayor Brandt reviewed the summary advising that completed project costs are \$110,110.77 with the grant giving \$23,592.08.

Ms. Close noted that the grant balance will be \$28,632.36 if all the approved projects are completed.

Mayor Brandt advised that the program had a total balance of \$150,000 between money from the City, Langlade County, and CoVantage Credit Union.

Mayor Brandt indicated that there is approximately \$400,000 worth of projects that are not completed at this time.

Upon inquiry by Brad Henricks, Ms. Close did not note any challenges with the program. She did note two requests for partial payments, which she suggests continuing to do these on a case-by-case basis.

Ms. Close indicated that the program does still have a lot of interest. There have been three more buildings sold/or in the process of being sold in the downtown area. She believes this program is an incentive to remodel the buildings downtown.

Mayor Brandt commented that he believes the biggest problem is going to be finding additional funding for the program.

INFORMATION ONLY

RESULT:	PLACED ON FILE-NO VOTE
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4. Review & Update of the City's Facade Grant Program Including a Historical Summary - Information Only

Ms. Close provided Committee members with a summary of the program funding.

Mayor Brandt highlighted that \$82,066.57 has been spent by the City for the grant, with \$481,136.04 spent on facade projects. Much of this has been accomplished because of the grant.

Mayor Brandt indicated that the guidelines for the program have been updated once and it seems to be working well.

Upon inquiry by Alderperson Bauknecht, Mayor Brandt advised that this grant has been funded by TIF 4 funds as well as Hotel Motel Economic Development funds.

Mayor Brandt commented that a year and a half ago it was his thought to take demolition funds and level some of the buildings downtown to see if interest would come to the downtown. However, there has been a lot of interest in the downtown in the recent year that is not a viable option at this time.

INFORMATION ONLY

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE-NO VOTE
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Any Other Matters Authorized by Law to be Considered

Upon inquiry by Gary Voytovich, Mayor Brandt explained the recent Economic Development Buy-Out Program that recently had an article in the newspaper.

Mayor Brandt explained that the Federal Government is closing the Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund program for everyone. If the local program has outstanding loans that it wants to buy-out, this is an option. There will not be any government criteria that would need to be followed for new loans if the program is bought out.

Mayor Brandt further explained that with the buy-out program, grant funding may be available for the Fifth Avenue project.

INFORMATION ONLY

Adjournment

1. **Motion to:** Adjourn at 6:27 pm

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Brad Henricks, Member
SECONDER:	Tom Bauknecht, Alderperson, Ward 4
AYES:	Bauknecht, Balcerzak, Brandt, Hessedal, Voytovich, Henricks
ABSENT:	Glenn Bugni

Bill Brandt, Chairperson

Date