

**BRAINERD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

**Thursday, April 1, 2021 7:30 a.m.**

**City Hall Council Chambers**

**WebEx Teleconference Meeting**

Pursuant to the call and notice thereof, President Erickson called the meeting of the Brainerd Economic Development Authority to order at 7:30 a.m.

Present were Commissioners Marie Kirsch, Gabe Johnson, Michael O'Day, Toni Bieser, and Wayne Erickson. Commissioner Kelly Bevans joined the meeting virtually. Also present were City Administrator Bergman, Community Development Director Chanski, Finance Director Hillman, Eric Charpentier, HRA director, Allison Medeck from BLAEDC and John Schommer, HRA rehab coordinator.

Due to a member attending the meeting electronically, all motions will be voted on by a roll call vote for accuracy.

**Approval/Amendment of the Agenda**

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONERS JOHNSON AND O'DAY TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

Upon roll call, Commissioners Kirsch, Johnson, O'Day, Bieser, Bevans, and Erickson voted "aye". No member voted "nay". The Chair declared the motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes**

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONERS O'DAY AND JOHNSON TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 4, 2021 MEETING.

Upon roll call, Commissioners Kirsch, Johnson, O'Day, Bieser, Bevans, and Erickson voted "aye". No member voted "nay". The Chair declared the motion carried.

**Financial Report**

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONERS BEVANS AND KIRSCH TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT AS PRESENTED.

Upon roll call, Commissioners Kirsch, Johnson, O'Day, Bieser, Bevans, and Erickson voted "aye". No member voted "nay". The Chair declared the motion carried.

**Updates**

**Executive Director**

City Administrator Bergman gave a brief update of the sesquicentennial events being planned for the week of September 18<sup>th</sup>. She stated that the topic of painting colored crosswalks were

being planned, but new information will be presented at the next council meeting. She announced that the Charter Commission has been meeting to make updates to the city charter.

City Administrator Bergman indicated the Destination Downtown Business Coalition (DDBC) and will be accepting the \$15,000 for a downtown coordinator under Brainerd Restoration, as they currently hold a 501(c)(3).

Community Development Director Chanski stated Mr. Bruce Miles will be presenting a workshop for strategic planning in-person on Tuesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, time will be announced. He announced that an update is currently being done on the city zoning code through Swanson Haskamp Consulting. He stated the Parking Commission has been working on some recommendations for the City Council to consider.

### **HRA**

Eric Charpentier gave an update to the Housing Trust Fund programs through the County HRA. He also stated that the Tax Forfeited Property policy through the County has been successful in proceeding with a new home being built on a property in the City.

John Schommer gave an update on the rehab housing and they are continuing outreach efforts to residents for the program by sending mailings to the NE residents. He said the developer at Brainerd Oaks and Serene Pines purchased three more lots to be constructed on.

### **BLAEDC Update**

Allison Medeck from BLAEDC stated the annual meeting was held and a digital report is posted to their website. She indicated the River to Rail meeting will be held next week. She gave a recap of the breakdown of Brainerd businesses that received assistance through the grant administered through Crow Wing County. She gave a brief update of the workforce program operated by Mike Bjerkness. Community stakeholders have been engaging businesses in the discussion of the childcare supply and the challenges of employee retention due to this concern.

### **New Business**

#### **American Rescue Plan Intro**

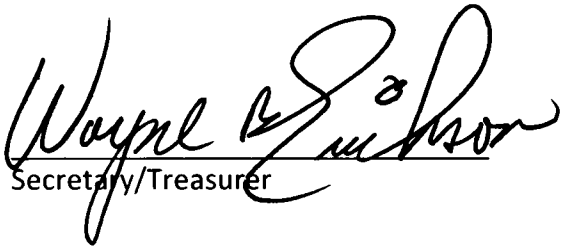
Community Development Director Chanski indicated President Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act on March 11, 2021. He gave an update to the information that is currently available and said more information will be provided as it is released.

### **Informational**

### **Comments/Questions**

### **Adjourn**

The Authority adjourned at 8:01 a.m.

  
Secretary/Treasurer