

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF PEKIN,
ILLINOIS,
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL
111 S. CAPITOL ST
ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2023 AT 12:00 PM**

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Economic Development Advisory Committee was called to order and all members were physically present.

Attendee Name	Organization	Title	Status	Arrived
John Campbell	Economic Development Advisory Committee	Member	Present	Noon
Danielle Owens	Economic Development Advisory Committee	Member	Present	Noon
Amy McCoy	Economic Development Advisory Committee	Member	Present	Noon
Dennis Short	Economic Development Advisory Committee	Member	Present	Noon
Jack Steger	Economic Development Advisory Committee	Member	Present	Noon
Drew Leman	Economic Development Advisory Committee	Member	Present	Noon
Liridon Rrushaj	Economic Development Advisory Committee	Member	Present	Noon
Keith Dunkelbarger	Economic Development Advisory Committee	Member	Present	Noon
Patrick Taphorn	Economic Development Advisory Committee	Member	Present	Noon
D. Neal Hanley II	Economic Development Advisory Committee	Member	Present	Noon
Roy Bockler	Economic Development Advisory Committee	Member	Present	Noon
Earl Riley	Economic Development Advisory Committee	Member	Present	Noon
Caty Campbell	Economic Development Advisory Committee	Member	Present	Noon

Public Input

No public input was received.

New Business

3.1. Introduction of new Economic Development Director

City of Pekin newly hired Economic Development Director, Josh Wray, was introduced at the meeting. This was his first day of work with City of Pekin. He reported that he grew up in Princeton and graduated from Northern Illinois University. He comes to us from Hampshire, Illinois.

3.2. Date and time for regular meetings going forward

It was discussed and decided to hold the meetings on the second Monday of the month at noon going forward. There was further discussion regarding forwarding potential agenda items for development of the meeting agenda under the direction of Josh Wray. It is important to prioritize what should be on the agenda. It was also noted that there is no reason to hold a meeting if there are no agenda items to discuss.

RESULT:

PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Committee Member Amy McCoy

SECONDER: Committee Member Pat Taphorn

AYES: Committee Members J. Campbell, Owens, McCoy, Short, Steger, Leman, Rrushaj,

Any Other Business

City Clerk Sue McMillan was present and informed the committee that everyone on any committee with the City of Pekin is required to complete the Open Meetings Act training. The link to the online training will be sent out to all members. Each member is asked to complete the training and forward the training certificate back to Sue McMillan for recordkeeping purposes. Each individual is required to do the training once. If a member already has a certificate on file with the City Clerks' office, they do not need to complete the training a second time.

There was discussion of reviewing the policies of the committee for possible updates. It was noted that the policy calls for a Chairman and Vice Chairman to be named on a yearly basis.

There were a number of topics brought up for future discussion: goals of the committee going forward- these need to be in line with the goals of the City; review the current bylaws and policy for updates; inviting Chris Setti to attend meetings at least quarterly.

Amy McCoy stated that the Bicentennial Committee is holding a kick-off meeting during the State of the City event on January 19th at 11:30 a.m. She announced the Launch Pekin Program that meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Chamber of Commerce office beginning at 5:00 p.m. She made everyone aware of the Discover Pekin website and FaceBook page. She announced the IT Accelerator Grant that provides no-cost IT education. It is available at no cost to the student or the employer. It was further noted that the Back to Business grant is available until January 11, 2024.

Adjourn

RESULT:

PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Committee Member Buster Hanley

SECONDER: Committee Member Amy McCoy

AYES: Committee Members J. Campbell, Owens, McCoy, Short, Steger, Leman, Rrushaj, Dunkelbarger, Taphorn, Hanley, C. Campbell, Bockler, and Riley