

**Village of Algonquin
Economic Development Commission
September 10, 2009
7:00 p.m.**

Agenda Item 1: Roll Call/Establish Quorum

PRESENT: Members: Chairperson Steve Karaba, Jerry Pinderski, Jack Navarrete, Mary Fioretti, and Tom McCabe, and Staff: Katie Parkhurst and Russ Farnum. Absent: Linda Laipert and Mike Agee.

Agenda Item 2: Approve Minutes from the June 11, 2009 meeting.

Chairperson Karaba entertained a motion on the minutes from the June 11, 2009 meeting. Mr. Navarrete made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 11, 2009 meeting and Mr. Pinderski seconded. A voice vote noted all ayes, motion passed.

Agenda Item 3: Western Bypass Status

Mrs. Katie Parkhurst informed the Commission that Governor Quinn signed the capital bill in July which included funding for the Western Bypass project. Therefore the State and County are moving forward with the land acquisition portion of the property. New appraisals are being conducted now and offers should be made to property owners in mid to late October.

Village staff has made contact with the property owners whose land will be acquired for the Bypass. Staff met with Steve Scott of Parkside Auto, the property owners and tenants of 315 Railroad Street, and contacted Burnex Corporation. The Village will offer assistance if helping the tenants find new locations for their businesses. Staff is stressing that the project is controlled by the State and County, but the Village is willing to assist our valued businesses the best that we can. Staff will continue to follow up with the businesses once the offers are made.

Mr. Pinderski inquired if Parkside could be moved to the north side of Algonquin Road, near the proposed interchange, if there would be room available. Staff will keep this in mind when reviewing the final engineering plans for the Bypass.

Agenda Item 4: Business List Update

Mrs. Parkhurst reviewed the business list update with the Commission. Over the summer field checks were conducted to update the business list with the assistance of Andrew Bogda, intern. The update also included updating the Food/Dining, Downtown Business, and GIS and Maps portions of the website with all current business listings.

Staff is working on obtaining email addresses for business as well, so that the Business Connection newsletter can be sent out via email. To date there are approximately 125 email addresses and 560 businesses that still have not provided an email address.

Mr. Pinderski inquired if the Village website could track hits to the business lists to see how many people are using these resources. Mrs. Parkhurst will check with the webmaster to see if the tracking is that specific.

Mrs. Fioretti asked if staff has worked with the Chamber of Commerce for updating business lists. Mrs. Parkhurst noted the Chamber has provided some email addresses and will continue to help us promote the business directories on the website and provide us with email addresses.

Agenda Item 5: Annual Business Award Nominations

Mrs. Parkhurst mentioned she is accepting nominations for the annual business awards. The EDC was provided with the list of previous award winners and a description of the award categories. If there are any ideas for nominations, please forward to Katie by December 1st. The nominations will be reviewed at the January meeting.

Mr. Navarrete suggested that Walmart receive the economic impact award. Mr. McCabe suggested the Knights of Columbus for their new building at St. Margaret Mary's Church.

Agenda Item 6: Other Business

The EDC inquired about the status of Riverside Square. Mrs. Parkhurst informed them that the bank is actively trying to sell the building. There have been several interested parties looking at the building and we are hopeful that a deal will be made.

Mrs. Parkhurst reminded everyone the next EDC meeting is scheduled for November 12th.

Agenda Item 7: Adjournment

There was no further business to discuss; the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Approved:



Steve Karaba, Chairperson, EDC