



## **Minutes**

Joint Economic Development Council Meeting  
Monday, June 6, 2016  
The Chamber Conference room  
The Chamber Office

Members in Attendance: **Melinda Henderson, Larry McElwain, Cal Karlin, Mike Orozco, Mike Gaughan, Rebecca Gaston, Barack Matite, Lisa Larsen, Derek Felch, Jason Edmonds, GR Underwood**

Ex Officio: **Bonnie Lowe, Craig Weinaug, Tom Markus**

Also in Attendance: **Britt Crum-Cano, Lindsey Slater, Nikki Wentling, Bob Schumm**

The meeting was called to order at 2:59 p.m. by Larry McElwain.

### **Review and consideration of approval of May 2, 2016 minutes.**

*Melinda Henderson moved and Cal Karlin seconded a motion to approve the second quarter minutes. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **Discussion about proposed incentive policy changes**

Larry said that PIRC has another meeting on June 16 to solidify their comments to to the commission.

Britt said that PIRC has to have their recommendations back by August 1. Recommendations have also been made by the affordable housing advisory board, but in regards to affordable housing only. Britt said that for most projects, the city doesn't dig into its pockets for our pay-as-you-go programs. Sometimes the City will pay out directly on smaller projects, like Peaslee Tech. Craig said that the County does do some cash outlays.

Britt said there are applications for all major economic incentive programs. The City is looking at fees to see if they're appropriate. The majority of the changes on the policy came from City Commission study sessions and these are the things they're interested in changing. The affordable housing part is a staff suggestion.

Tom said it's a competitive world in business attraction and you want flexibility built into policies. The but/for test is designed to be public proof. That standard says that unless your financials support the need, but for this financing, this project would not happen.

**Make the decision about what the JEDC response will be**

Larry said the JEDC is a broader group so we need to work in all areas. The Chamber will also weigh in on the proposed changes on its own.

Cal said that part of our mission is to give general economic oversight. Cal believes the group should also weigh in on affordable housing because it affects attraction and retention of jobs.

Tom and Craig agreed that the group should not wordsmith the document, but provide overarching suggestions for the policies.

Cal said he was willing to try crafting the language of the JEDC's suggestions.

*The meeting was adjourned at 4:32 p.m.*