

CITY OF ANOKA
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 9, 2022

Call to Order: Chairperson Finn called the EDC meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. at Anoka City Hall, 2015 First Avenue North in the City of Anoka.

Roll Call: EDC Members present were: Mike Allen, Mathew Finn, Jeff Lee (arrived at 8:03 a.m.), Sanasac, Curt Rekstad (arrived at 8:06 a.m.), Julie Smith, and Logan Thompson. EDC members absent were: Quinn Garrick. Staff present: Community Development Director Doug Borglund and City Engineer Ben Nelson

Approval of Minutes: MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SMITH, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER THOMPSON, TO REAPPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 10, 2022 AND APRIL 14, 2022 EDC MEETINGS, AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS:

Legislative Items – Social District: Mr. Borglund stated that the liquor bill was signed into law recently which included the ability for a social district. He noted that Anoka would be the first community to do this. He stated that this would be similar to the Food Truck Festival but would allow the local businesses to participate in selling beverages to patrons that could then take those beverages outside within the boundaries of the social district.

Chairperson Finn asked if the social district would be in place prior to the Food Truck Festival and riverfront concerts.

Mr. Borglund replied that there is an intention to do some trial runs but noted that it will take time to get all parties on the same page. He commented that they are very early in the process and was unsure of all the details at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

Rum River Dam/Ben Nelson: Mr. Nelson provided some historical information on the Rum River dam and the recreational use of the river that the dam provides. He also provided details on different studies that have been done on the dam and other potential uses including power generation, a lock and dam system, fish barrier, and maintenance bridge. He also provided details on the riverwalk and the additional easements the City has along the river.

Chairperson Finn commented that perhaps if the lock system is added there could be a charge for users that would help to cover ongoing maintenance and operations.

Resolution 2022-3 Anoka County Jail Expansion: Mr. Borglund presented a draft resolution that he prepared at the direction of the Commission at its last meeting.

Commissioner Allen commented that the group has never been shown any benefits this project would provide to the City.

Mr. Borglund commented that this project would not provide any benefits to the City.

Chairperson Finn commented that the proposed plan would not be feasible.

Mr. Borglund confirmed that this use would have an adverse impact on the things the City is trying to do in the downtown area.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LEE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER THOMPSON, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2022-3. MOTION CARRIED.
COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS:

Marketing and Communications Updates:

- Discover Anoka: No report.
- Chamber of Commerce: No report.
- ABLA: No report.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Discuss July Meeting Agenda: No comments.

Staff Update: No comments.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Commissioner Rekstad, a second by Commissioner Smith, and a unanimous vote of those present at 8:49 a.m.

Amanda Staple, *TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*