

## **Harmony EDA Minutes**

February 6, 2014  
7:30 AM

Community Center  
Council Room

Present: Chris Skaalen, Steve Donney, Deb Swenson, Andy Batstone, and Kerry Kingsley

Also present: Jill Fishbaugher, Jerome Illg, and Chris Giesen

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:33 AM by Chris Skaalen

### **Election of Officers**

The board met at its annual meeting and discussed election of officers and other organizational matters. Swenson nominated Chris Skaalen as President, Steve Donney as Vice President, and Deb Swenson as Treasurer of the Harmony Economic Development Authority. The chair asked three times for other nominations. Hearing no other nominations, Swenson moved to cast a unanimous ballot for Skaalen, Donney, and Swenson as nominated; second by Kingsley. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Committee Appointments**

Skaalen appointed Swenson and Batstone to the loan committee.

### **Minutes**

The minutes of the January 9, 2014 meeting were reviewed. Motion by Swenson, second by Donney to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Financial Report**

The financial report was reviewed and loans were discussed. Motion by Batstone second by Donney to approve the financial report and payment claims as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Residential Housing Incentive**

The board discussed at length a possible residential building rebate. Consensus was that a program should be started and it should incorporate a 5 year quasi abatement payback to the City from the new tax base created. The board discussed having a flat fee and sliding scale rebate program and asked staff to bring options back to the March meeting for review.

### **Internet Discussion**

Jill Fishbaugher was present to update the board on the new capabilities and technology used by Harmony Telephone for internet services. She said that while many times they need a project scope to calculate exact needs for special projects, Harmony Telephone could adequately provide any speed connection to nearly anywhere in the City; if the customer was willing to pay for the service. The board discussed a number of opportunities with Jill and thanked her for helping the board.

### **“Welcome” Brochure**

The board discussed the “Welcome” Brochure. Giesen distributed a draft and asked for input on content. The board liked the design and would discuss content at a future meeting.

### **Chamber Report**

There was no report.

### **Prospects/ Community Update**

Giesen gave an update on prospects.

### **Adjournment**

Skaalen adjourned the meeting at 9:52 AM. The next regular meeting will be on March 6, 2014 at 7:30 AM at the Community Center.