

Harmony EDA Minutes

August 29, 2019
7:30 AM

Council Room
Community Center

Present: Chris Skaalen, Steve Donney, Kerry Kingsley, and Steve Sagen

Also Present: Amy Carstens, Brent Drenckhahn, Jerome Illg, and Chris Giesen

The special meeting was called to order at 7:30 AM by Chris Skaalen

Dairyland Project/Future Industrial Park Planning

Illg and Giesen explained that the Dairyland project was progressing to a point where the business narrowed their site plans to two options. Option one involves approximately 8 acres wholly within phase II of the industrial park. Option two involves approximately 8 acres between land in phase II of the industrial park and owned by a private individual. It was reported that there were several pros and cons for each proposal but that in short the buyer was asking the city to honor its prior commitment to give them the land at no cost to the buyer. The buyer was also trying to eliminate any public infrastructure costs.

Amy Carstens and Brent Drenckhahn of Dairyland Power Cooperative were present to discuss their proposed project and answer any questions. They discussed their project in detail and the board discussed at length. Carstens said that Dairyland wished to be a good community partner and find a site plan that was a win-win situation for everyone. Skaalen said that this was a good project and that the community wants to see it happen.

Illg and Giesen recommended that the board consider future growth plans for the city and industrial park before considering the merits of either Dairyland proposal. Consensus was that this project was desired as well as future industrial growth. It was agreed that staff will contact the private land owners and assess their interest in selling, if any. It was hoped that a sense of willingness to sell could be determined by the September board meeting. Giesen said he would keep the board posted of any progress. It was also the consensus of the board that option two was the preferred site plan to maximize developable land.

It was agreed that the board should continue this discussion with any updates, as well as regular monthly business at the regular September meeting.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Hearing no objections, Skaalen adjourned the meeting at 8:55 AM.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for September 5, 2019 at 7:30 AM, at the Community Center.