

**MEETING MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
SPECIAL MEETING
AUGUST 10, 2022
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
COMMUNITY ROOM
31555 W ELEVEN MILE ROAD
FARMINGTON HILLS, MICHIGAN**

CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN T.R. CARR AT 8:06 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: T.R. CARR, LEWIS CANTOR, MARK BRUCKI, SCOTT ELLIOTT, SUSAN ARLIN, EUNICE JEFFRIES, MARK ZACHOS, FRITZ BEIERMEISTER, KEN MASSEY

ALSO PRESENT: Gary Mekjian, Joe Valentine, Cristia Brockway, Samantha Seimer

EXCUSED: SAM SLAUGHTER

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Lew Cantor, supported by Scott Elliott to approve the agenda as submitted.
Unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Lew Cantor, supported by Scott Elliott to add the language “flexibility moving forward” into paragraph two, after BSL1 and to approve the minutes of June 15, 2022 as amended.

Unanimously carried.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

Chairman T.R. Carr reiterated that the role of the Economic Development Corporation is to boost the economy and attract new businesses to the area. He also explained that there has been a significant amount of work done to move the Innovation Center forward.

REPORT/UPDATES FROM

1. City Management
 - a. None.
2. Council Liaison
 - a. None.

APPROVAL TO ACCEPT AND RECOMMEND THE REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER TO THE CITY COUNCIL THE APPROVAL TO ADVANCE PLANS FOR THE BUILDOUT OF ONE (1) LAB ON THE 3RD FLOOR OF THE HAWK FOR AN INNOVATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCUBATOR.

Motion by Susan Arlin, supported by Fritz Beiermeister to herby accept and approve the report.

Unanimously carried.

APPROVAL TO RECOMMISSION THE SUBCOMMITTEE, INVESTIGATE GOVERNANCE MODELS FOR THE HAWK, AND REPORT BACK TO THE EDC AT THE NEXT MEETING.

Motion by Lew Cantor, supported by Eunice Jeffries to move item for approval.

Unanimously carried.

BUSINESS

1. Innovation Center

- a. T.R. Carr, Lewis Cantor, Mark Brucki, Fritz Beiermeister, Gary Mekjian, City Manager, and Joe Valentine, Assistant City Manager, explored how the \$750,000 state funds are to be allocated to the City and budgeted into a City account. It was stated that the funds are set aside for The Innovation Center and brought to Council to be earmarked in the City budget.
- b. Gary Mekjian explained that the revised financials include \$500,000 for a lab and office with contingencies, \$100,000 in shared office equipment, and \$150,000 for operational and management costs.
- c. Ken Massey, Council Liaison, communicated The Innovation Center's strict project timeline relating to the SBIR Grant and its availability to start up businesses to name The Hawk as their work location. Federally allocated funds, the SBIR Grant is for businesses to pursue research and development projects with commercialization potential. Massey also highlighted that there is a seven-month review and grading process before the grant can be awarded.
- d. Brief discussion regarding the governance model of the Innovation Center was discussed between Joe Valentine, Assistant City Manager, T.R. Carr, and Ken Massey. A non-profit model was suggested along with an additional subcommittee member to review governance structures.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman T.R. Carr at 9:02 a.m.

Minutes Drafted by Cristia Brockway, Economic Development Director