

**MEETING MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
MAY 18, 2022
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
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

ALSO PRESENT: Gary Mekjian, City Manager, Joseph Valentine, Assistant City Manager, Cristia Brock-way, Economic Development Director, Steve Joppich, City Attorney

EXCUSED: MARK ZACHOS, EUNICE JEFFRIES, SAM SLAUGHTER, FRITZ BEIERMEISTER, DR. KEN MASSEY, CITY COUNCIL LIAISON

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Susan Arlin, supported by Scott Elliott to approve the minutes of April 20, 2022 as submitted.
Unanimously carried.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman T.R. Carr spoke of the variety of economic development related conferences that are available to attend and the desire to connect the Economic Development Corporation with neighboring EDC's.

T.R. Carr and Gary Mekjian discussed how the use of overlay districts in some city areas could help business attraction. The EDC is needed in public involvement when discussing master plan items such as overlay districts.

It was also mentioned that two Michigan Senators will be touring the potential Innovation Center space at The Hawk on May 27 at 10 a.m.

REPORT/UPDATES FROM

1. City management
 - a. Gary Mekjian, City Manager, reported that the City Council set aside funds for the Farmington Hills boards and commissions for project activities and that budget

adoption will be formally adopted on June 13. Mekjian also briefly mentioned that the City has taken efforts in meeting professionals within the commercial real estate industry to understand occupancy rates, building conversion possibilities, and market interest.

- b. Joe Valentine, Assistant City Manager, reminded the board of Public Sector Consultant's attendance and involvement at the upcoming May 23 Council Study Session to discuss the Innovation Center Business Plan.
 - a. Mark Brucki and Valentine briefly discussed that Giffels Webster has collected the data based on the Master Plan Update survey in which will be reviewed by the City, Council, and Planning Commission.
- c. Cristia Brockway, Economic Development Director, gave a report on her efforts to bring restaurants and destination places to Farmington Hills, the challenges associated with this project, how the Master Plan update will provide part of the solution, and how the Economic Development Corporation can be involved.

APPROVAL TO ENDORSE THE DRAFTED RESOLUTION FOR CITY COUNCIL REGARDING THE POTENTIAL ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INNOVATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCUBATOR AT THE HAWK FACILITY.

Motion by Lew Cantor, supported by Mark Brucki to hereby approve the drafted resolution. Unanimously carried.

Steve Joppich, City Attorney, presented the drafted resolution to the board and described that the documents' purpose is to be displayed before Council to show the history of the Innovation Center project and to request approval in engaging further in the project.

The resolution would be considered for approval by the City Council on a later date after the presentation of the business plan on the May 23 Council Study Session.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

APPROVAL FOR ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Susan Arlin, supported by Mark Brucki to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 a.m. Unanimously carried.

Minutes Drafted by Cristia Brockway, Economic Development Director