

Session 11-03, a Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Advisory Commission was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Acting Chair Neece on August 9, 2011 at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

PRESENT: COMMISSIONER DAVIS, FAULKNER, NEECE, SARNO

COUNCILMEMBER: WYTHE

STAFF: DEPUTY CITY CLERK JACOBSEN

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved by consensus of the Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no public comments.

RECONSIDERATION

There were no items for reconsideration.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Meeting Minutes of July 12, 2011

The minutes were approved by consensus of the Commission.

VISITORS

There were no visitors scheduled.

STAFF AND COUNCIL REPORT

Councilmember Wythe had no comments.

PUBLIC HEARING

No public hearing items were scheduled.

PENDING BUSINESS

No pending business items were scheduled.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Acting Chair Neece opened nominations for Chair. There was brief discussion and Commissioner Davis expressed his willingness to serve as Acting Chair Neece Election of Chair

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Davis. The Commission agreed by consensus to elect Commissioner Davis as Chair, he assumed the gavel and opened nominations for Vice Chair.

Commissioner Sarno expressed her willingness to serve as Vice Chair. The Commission agreed by consensus to elect Commissioner Sarno as Vice Chair.

B. Recommendation of Commissioner to Represent the EDC on the Lease Committee

The Commission briefly discussed the Lease Committee meeting schedule and Commissioner Neece expressed his willingness to serve on the Lease Committee. The Commission agreed by consensus to recommend Commissioner Neece to the Lease Committee.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. City Manager's Report

There was brief discussion of the City Manager's report. Question was raised about the employee committee. Councilmember Wythe explained that it was formed at the behest of the Council to provide input on their benefit package should cuts be required. There was also comment that the biggest area of debt lies with the water and sewer. The infrastructure is finance by low interest loans with repayment through LID contributions for citizens in those areas and a portion of sales tax.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

There were no audience comments.

COMMENTS OF CITY STAFF

Deputy City Clerk Jacobsen had no comments.

COMMENTS OF THE COUNCIL MEMBER

Councilmember Wythe commented that Council put together a Committee that consists of Councilmembers, Port and Harbor Commissioners, and the Harbormaster. They are going to do a review and consider options for potentially doing a revenue bond to see if they can address some of the linger items on the CIP list. Since the harbor is an enterprise fund with revenue sources they can bond and do some of those projects. She noted the funding coming from the State for improvements in the cruise ship area. There will be a lot of potential activity happening at the Port and Harbor and she thinks the Commission might want to keep an eye on what is going on out there to make recommendations as it goes along. There will be opportunities for public input as those projects start to come together.

COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR

Chair Davis had no comments.

COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION MEMBERS

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Commissioner Sarno asked to have the farmer's market project information on the next agenda for discussion.

Commissioner Faulkner congratulated the new Chair and Vice Chair.

Commissioner Neece questioned the status of the Chamber EDC. Chair Davis said the Chamber's committee hasn't been meeting and they are looking for people to help get that going again. It was suggested to include an agenda item for an EDC member being on the Chamber committee.

ADJOURN

There being no more business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for September 13, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers.

MELISSA JACOBSEN, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Approved: _____