

POLO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The May 17, 2018 meeting of the Polo Economic Development Corporation was held at Polo City Hall. Secretary/Treasurer Sydney Bartelt opened the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Members present were Mark Scholl, Sydney Bartelt, Josh Faivre, Betty Obendorf. Also present was Mayor Doug Knapp.

Absent: Tracey DeCrane, Susie Corbitt, Andy Faivre, Mike Faivre, Louise Hall, Don Vock, and Greg Cross.

Additional citizens present were: Mark Ebert.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW DIRECTORS:

APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 19, 2018 MEETING MINUTES:

Betty Obendorf made a motion to approve the 04/19/18 PEDC meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Mark Scholl. The motion carried by voice vote without dissent.

APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 2018 TREASURER'S REPORTS:

Josh Faivre made a motion to accept the April 2018 treasurer's report as presented and the revolving fund account as presented, seconded by Betty Obendorf. Carried by voice vote without dissent.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Discussion on Senior Housing.

There is no buildable land in Polo to provide senior housing at this point. Mark Ebert's thought would be to develop senior housing pods throughout the City. He was thinking about 6 lots or possibly duplexes for seniors. Concern about the duplexes would be who your neighbor is. Would a senior citizen want to live next to a family with children? David Sherrick's land is already plotted out for lots. A developer would have to purchase that land. Concerns about building new homes that are affordable for young families was also brought up. Mark stated that a new house would need a minimum of 1,200 sq. ft. with an attached garage with a small yard. Once again, the problem with that is there is no buildable land. Mark would like us to develop a comprehensive plan of what our plan/idea is.

B. Discussion on Upcoming Grocery Store.

Tushar has not received the engineering drawings yet. His hope is to receive them in the next week and start working on the building in June. Once he receives the drawings he can start on the City Tax Rebate paperwork. Within the next couple of months, he should be submitting that information to Jakob & Kline.

C. Discussion on Possible Pharmacy.

They are in the process of renovating the building. The building has to meet the codes for the State of IL. Once they receive the license from the State of IL they then have to apply to the individual insurances which can take 90-120 days. Once they receive the State of IL license they are required to be

open 8 hrs a week.

D. PEDC & Polo Chamber of Commerce Business Interviews and Report of Chamber of Commerce May Board Meeting.

Chamber did approve to pay \$750 for the SBDC partnership. The Chamber has decided to leave the \$45,000 with PEDC but they would like recognition when loans are given out. The Chamber would also like to take part in the loan approval process.

E. Discussion on Possible Enterprise Zone.

No report to be given.

F. Discussion on Partnership with America's SBDC.

The Polo Chamber approved to pay \$750 for the SBDC partnership. That check will be sent in with the PEDC check of \$750.

G. Discussion on Economic Growth Development Corporation from Moline, IL.

We are still waiting to hear when the next round of funding will be for the Blight Reduction Program through the Illinois Housing Development Authority. Doug has not heard back from Amy from the Economic Growth Development Corporation.

H. Discussion on Solar Farms.

The solar company is very interested and thinks the location north of well and township garage along with set up was perfect! Problem maybe they have increased acres to 35-40 acres. Previously priority was 2 megawatts for the 20 acres, now it is 4 megawatts so needs to be 35-40 acres. As he explained that would mean more tax revenue to the City. He asked Susie to look at a few possibilities in adjacent land.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

OTHER BUSINESS:

It was suggested to get a list of upcoming leaders in Polo to help get them involved in our community. Susie spoke with Dave Sowinski and he has straw statues lined up for Paul's Park during Polo Town & Country Days. There is no cost for the straw statues.

ADJOURNMENT:

Josh Faivre made a motion to adjourn at 8:23pm, seconded by Mark Scholl. The motion carried without dissent.

The next meeting of the PEDC will be held July 19, 2018 at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sydney Bartelt
Secretary/Treasurer