



**MINUTES
COHASSET ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
305 NORTHWEST FIRST AVENUE
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2014
5:30 P.M.**

1. **Call to Order:** Mayor Greg Hagy called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

Present: Mayor/EDA President Greg Hagy, City Council Liaison Tim Carlson, EDA Vice President Conrad Feldt, Larry Gemmill, Nick Wooner, Bill Boutwell, & Max Peters

Absent: Scott Larson was absent with notice

Others Present: None

3. **Review & Approve Agenda:** *A motion was made by Feldt/Gemmill to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.*

4. **Business or Resident Input:** Discussion took place regarding the compost pile on Pincherry Road. Peters explained that a locked gate was installed and the hours are 8-3 – Monday through Friday. However, the City has constraints and the site is costing a lot of money and has been abused. Peters explained that, unfortunately, the City will most likely close the site. It was suggested that the compost pile be opened every other Saturday with staff manning the site. Peters indicated that overtime is not in the budget.

5. **Approve September 2, 2014 EDA Minutes:** *A motion was made by Wooner/Carlson to approve the September 2, 2014 EDA minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.*

6. **Vote to Cancel or Reschedule November EDA Meeting (Due to Election Day) – a motion was made by Boutwell/Gemmill to cancel the November 4, 2014 EDA meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

7. **Itasca County Rail & Road Study** – The City of Cohasset has been asked to contribute \$3000 to the Itasca County Rail & Road Study. This item went to City Council and was then referred to the EDA. Councilor Carlson stated he asked the EDA to review it due to concerns because the information given Council only listed the “eastern portion of Grand Rapids” as the area that would benefit from the study. However, the project would benefit Cohasset as well, as part of the plan is to put a spur to the Peterson & Soring Roads, which in on the north side of the

Cohasset Industrial Park, which would make the property more attractive. *A motion was made by Wooner/Boutwell to gather additional information and place this item back on the December EDA agenda. Motion carried unanimously.*

8. **IEDC Update** – Finance Manager Max Peters reported that something that came up at the IEDC meeting was the inability of a Cohasset business to fill some labor positions. Peters indicated that this is a major problem for employers in the entire area. Discussion ensued regarding what constitutes a “quality job.”

Also, Peters reported that Apex presented a study on powder coating & plating.

9. **Future Development Update** – Mayor Hagy pointed out that future development has been covered previously and asked that each EDA Commissioner give some input of their choice.

Conrad Feldt continued the conversation regarding the compost pile. Felt indicated that the compost site is a useful option for residents and it was suggested the site remain open and the city install cameras.

Larry Gemmill stated he is encouraged from what he heard tonight regarding the phase II Industrial Park. Gemmill noted it will take time for the engineering, etc. to fall into place but he likes where it is going.

Tim Carlson asked how the Cohasset Business Loan Program is going. Peters answered that there is only one loan out and timely payments have been made. Carlson also mentioned that the Holiday Station in south Grand Rapids has closed.

Bill Boutwell mentioned that the first 500 employees hired by Magnetation were found without any advertising – it was all word of mouth.

Nick Wooner asked about the status of the auto spa building. Peters stated the building is scheduled for demolition and it is unknown at this point if there is contaminated soil. Environmental information will not be available until the actual digging begins.

Mayor Greg Hagy adjourned the meeting

Submitted by Deputy Clerk Karen Mester

Approved: 12/2/2014