

IDA Meeting Minutes
August 16, 2023
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The Town of Orange Industrial Development Authority (IDA) held a meeting at 5:15 p.m., in the Town of Orange Community Meeting Room. Members present were Mrs. Dana C. Amos, , Dr. Dena Jennings, Mr. Harry C. Mason, Jr., Mr. Kevin Reynolds, Sr., and Mr. David Rutt. Staff members present were: Town Manager Greg Woods, Deputy Town Clerk Kimberly Strawser, Director of Finance Dianna Gomez, and Town Attorney Catherine Lea. Mr. Robert Higginbotham and Mr. Steve Sylvia were absent.

CALL TO ORDER

The Town Manager called the meeting to order. The Deputy Town Clerk called roll and noted that there was a quorum present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Dr. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Mason, to adopt the agenda, as presented. On vote, Mrs. Amos – aye, Mr. Higginbotham – absent, Dr. Jennings – aye, Mr. Mason – aye, Mr. Reynolds – aye, Mr. Rutt – aye, and Mr. Sylvia – absent. The motion carried.

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

The Town Manager called for nominations for Chairperson. A motion was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Mrs. Amos, to nominate Mr. Higginbotham to serve as Chairperson. There being no more nominations the Town Manager stated nominations were closed.

On roll call vote to appoint Mr. Higginbotham to serve as Chairperson of the Town's IDA: Mr. Mason – aye, Mr. Reynolds – aye, Mr. Rutt – aye, Mr. Sylvia – absent, Mrs. Amos – aye, Mr. Higginbotham – absent, and Dr. Jennings – aye. The motion carried.

The Chairperson for the Town's IDA for 2023-2024 fiscal year is Mr. Robert Higginbotham.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Town Manager called for nominations for Vice-Chairman. A motion was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Mr. Rutt, to nominate Mr. Mason to serve as Vice-Chairman. There being no more nominations, the Town Manager stated nominations were closed.

On roll call vote to appoint Mr. Mason, as Vice-Chairman of the Town's IDA: Dr. Jennings – aye, Mr. Mason – aye, Mr. Reynolds – aye, Mr. Rutt – aye, Mr. Sylvia – absent, Mrs. Amos – aye, and Mr. Higginbotham – absent. The motion carried.

The Vice-Chairman for the Town's IDA for 2023-2024 fiscal year is Mr. Harry C. Mason, Jr.

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The Town Manager turned the meeting over to the Vice-Chairman.

ELECTION OF TREASURER

The Town Manager recommended that Dianna Gomez be the Treasurer of the IDA.

Vice-Chairman Mason called for motion. A motion was made by Mr. Rutt seconded by Mrs. Amos to nominate Dianna Gomez to serve as Treasurer. There being no more nominations, Vice-Chairman Mason stated nominations were closed.

On roll call vote to appoint Dianna Gomez as Treasurer of the Town's IDA: Mr. Higginbotham – absent, Dr. Jennings – aye, Mr. Mason – aye, Mr. Reynolds – aye, Mr. Rutt – aye, Mr. Sylvia – absent and Mrs. Amos – aye. The motion carried.

The Treasurer for the Town's IDA for 2023-2024 fiscal year is Dianna Gomez.

ELECTION OF SECRETARY

Vice-Chairman Mason called for nominations. A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Mason, seconded by Mr. Reynolds to nominate Kim Strawser as Secretary. There being no more nominations, Vice-Chairman Mason stated nominations were closed.

On roll call vote to appoint Kim Strawser as Secretary of the Town's IDA: Mrs. Amos – aye, Mr. Higginbotham – absent, Dr. Jennings – aye, Mr. Mason – aye, Mr. Reynolds – aye, Mr. Rutt – aye, and Mr. Sylvia – absent. The motion carried.

The Secretary for the Town's IDA for 2023-2024 fiscal year is Kim Strawser.

CONSIDERATION OF IDA MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 19, 2023

A motion was made by Dr. Jennings, seconded by Vice-Chairman Mason, to adopt the meeting minutes of July 19, 2023, as presented. On vote, Chairman Higginbotham – absent, Vice-Chairman Mason – aye, Mrs. Amos – aye, Dr. Jennings – aye, Mr. Reynolds – aye, Mr. Rutt – aye and Mr. Sylvia – absent. The motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Town Manager reported that there were no change in funds since the last meeting. The Town Manager asked the Director of Finance/Treasurer to report of the balance of funds. The Treasurer reported that the balance was \$153,457. A discussion was held regarding funds being in an interest-bearing account.

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A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Mason, seconded by Mr. Reynolds to move \$100,000 into a CD and put the remainder into an interest-bearing checking account. On vote, Chairman Higginbotham – absent, Vice-Chairman Mason – aye, Mrs. Amos – aye, Dr. Jennings – aye, Mr. Reynolds – aye, Mr. Rutt – aye and Mr. Sylvia – absent. The motion carried.

CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF IDA DIRECTION – DISCUSSION OF IDA FUNDS

Members of the IDA asked if town staff would do some research on how to attract new businesses to town. The following suggested business to look into:

- Mini Walmart
- Lidl
- Kohls
- Germanna or Piedmont satellite classrooms
- Entertainment
- Bowling alley

Mr. Rutt reported he spoke to the Sedwicks to get an update on Sean Gregs office space on Main Street. Mr. Rutt reported further that the Sedwicks already had two people interested in the space, one being a bakery and the other was unknown.

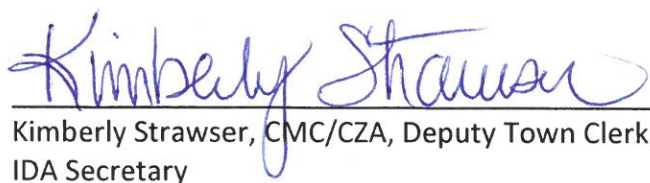
Mrs. Amos discussed marketing ideas that she and Vice Chairman Mason discussed. After discussion it was decided that the IDA would join the Chamber of Commerce, that the IDA page on the town's website would include their Mission Statement, rules/guidelines, and the FIG application and that the IDA put together a brochure of what they can offer to businesses.

NEXT MEETING

The next IDA meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, at 5:15 p.m., the following items will be on the agenda:

- Discussion of brochure
- Discussion on loan guidelines

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.


Kimberly Strawser, CMC/CZA, Deputy Town Clerk
IDA Secretary