



# IRONWOOD

MICHIGAN | *Find Your North*

## Proceedings of the Economic Development Corporation Meeting Wednesday, March 1, 2023

A Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) was held on Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at 10:00 A.M. in the Memorial Building Women’s Club Room.

1. Chairman Meyer called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
2. Recording of the Roll

MEMBER	Present		EXCUSED	NOT EXCUSED
	YES	NO		
Thorsen, Gina	X			
Korpela, Nancy	X			
Lehto, Steve	X			
Meyer, Michael	X			
Corcoran, Kim	X			
Vacant				
Schonberg, Bob		X	X	
Ackerman-Behr, Glen	X			
Libby, Carolyn	X			
<b>Quorum</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Quorum</b>	

Also Present: Community Development Director Tom Bergman and Community Development Assistant Tim Erickson.

3. Approval of the January 4, 2022 Meeting Minutes:

**Motion by Korpela to accept the meeting minutes. Second by Corcoran. Motion Carried 7 to 0.**

4. Approval of the Agenda.

**Motion by Corcoran to approve the amended Agenda. Second by Ackerman-Behr. Motion Carried 7 to 0.**

5. Citizens wishing to address the Corporation regarding Items on the Agenda (Three-minute limit): None.
6. Citizens wishing to address the Corporation regarding items not on the Agenda (Three-minute limit): None.
7. Items for Discussion and Consideration.

- A. 2023 Goal Setting: Director Bergman presented the goal setting memo. Korpela discussed including agriculture into a study similar to the retail study. The marketing plan could be a tool to help with this. The comprehensive plan update will be a goal for Q3 or Q4 in 2023. The EDC will be involved with the comprehensive planning process.

**Motion by Korpela to approve the recommended goals. Second by Lehto.  
Motion Carried 7 to 0.**

- B. Update on Downtown Development Plan and TIF Plan (District Map): Director Bergman gave an update on the progress with the plan. Letters are being sent to downtown property owners to inform them of the plans. A public hearing will be conducted at the last March City Commission meeting to start the 60-day countdown.

8. Other Business:

- A. Housing Report: Ackerman-Behr gave an update. He talked about a similar group that has formed in Ontonagon County. Copper Peak will require a housing component. Long-term rental solutions should be considered in the comprehensive planning process. The Copperwood project will require 1000 families in the area. WUPPDR wants to get a housing group together to discuss this issue. Transportation should be considered for being able to bus people to a from the Copperwood project. The subcommittee will revert back to the EDC and at least one person from the EDC should be on the regional housing board. The EDC discussed ways to build more homes to house as many families as possible. The EDC should be prepared to be shovel ready with a plan for when the Copperwood project starts. A plan to develop city land could be developed to be shovel ready. Curry park could be expanded with more full hookup RV sites.
- B. Ackerman-Behr asked for an update on licenses issued for marihuana businesses. The EDC discussed micro businesses and consumption areas.

9. Next Meeting: April 5, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

10. Adjournment. **Motion** by Ackerman-Behr to adjourn at 10:46 a.m. **Second** by Lehto. **Motion Carried 7 to 0.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Meyer, President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Erickson, Community Development Assistant