

IEDA Meeting Minutes

July 7, 2025

Present:

IEDA Vice Chair Glen Keen

IEDA Member Alicia Bales

IEDA Member Justin Takach

IEDA Member Tammy Smith

IEDA Member Lucie D'Amato

Absent:

IEDA Chair Cara Spivey

IEDA Member Susan Whittaker

Staff members present were Town Manager, Leeanne Regon, Clerk, Sabrina Schooley.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Keen called the meeting to order at 4:30pm in the Town Hall Council Chambers.

MINUTES

Clerk Schooley stated that she was not able to complete the minutes from the June meeting, so they will need to wait until next month to vote on the June minutes.

DISCUSSION

ENTERPRISE ZONE

Manager Regon had prepared a presentation regarding the Virginia Enterprise Zone for the Town of Tazewell. She stated that Tim Danielson with Tazewell County had stated that if we wanted to make any changes to our zone, now was the time to do so. They reviewed the current zone and discussed areas to add or remove from the zone. In addition to what she had prepared it was suggested by IEDA Member Bales to add in the Grundy National Bank property, it was suggested by IEDA Member Smith to add Earl Keene's building on Riverside Drive that was previously Riverside Fashions. IEDA Member Bales suggests that we remove the property at the YMCA that houses their solar panels and reallocate that acreage to cover the Cox lot on Main Street. Manager Regon asked if anyone had any other discussion and was everyone in agreement with the changes they just set out for the enterprise zone. It was answered, yes, they are in agreement.

EBAG

NEW APPLICATION -BOHEMIAN GRAY

Manager Regon stated that Megan Muncy with Bohemian Gray, a new business opening on Main Street, has submitted an EBAG application and it is in the packet for review today. They reviewed it and the business plan submitted and it was decided to ask her to come to the August IEDA meeting.

PENDING AGREEMENTS-BEE NOODLED, WAYFARER, AND STINGERZ

Attorney Pyott stated that for Bee Noodled and Stingerz, we need a lease agreement for the businesses. We need The Wayfarer to update their application. It is suggested to have them lower the number of employees on their application. It is suggested they need to list 5 employees.

ONGOING PROJECT UPDATES

MARINUS FAMILY REQUEST- there is no update at this time.

RAMEY LOT AND RIVERSIDE DRIVE PROPERTY

POTENTIAL IDEA: CANNERY

IEDA Chair Spivey and Manager Regon had a meeting with representatives from Tazewell County and they were discussing the idea of a cannery. Many years ago, there was a cannery in Tazewell County and it ultimately closed. It was stated that the newly owned IEDA property on Riverside Drive could be a potential location for a cannery and it could pair nicely with the farmers market across the street. This is just an idea that was being discussed.

FARMERS MARKET

GRANT UPDATE-AFID

We applied for the Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development (AFID) Grant and have now been awarded with \$28,244 to go toward the Clinch River Pavilion and Farmers Market project.

MISCELLANEOUS

TOWN OF TAZEWELL MOUNTAIN BIKING PROJECT

Manager Regon discussed the mountain biking project. She stated that we needed to have easements for the properties adjoining us. Attorney Pyott is going to prepare a draft and we will meet with property owners to discuss. Manager Regon is to send the lease agreement that is currently in place for the hiking trail to Attorney Pyott.

BILLY WAGNER PARK TRIBUTE

In an email discussion dated 6/18/25, a vote was needed to allow IEDA Chair Spivey to sign an authorization form for core drilling to take place in the Mini Park for the Billy Wagner statute. The IEDA now needs to ratify the vote.

Motion was made from IEDA Member Bales to allow Chair Spivey to sign the authorization for. Motion was seconded by IEDA Member Takach. On vote, IEDA Member Bales, aye; IEDA Member Takach, aye; IEDA Member Keen, aye; IEDA Member Smith, aye; IEDA Member D'Amato, aye.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by IEDA Member D'Amato. Motion was seconded by IEDA Member Smith. On vote, IEDA Member Bales, aye; IEDA Member Takach, aye; IEDA Member Keen, aye; IEDA Member Smith, aye; IEDA Member D'Amato, aye.