

IEDA Meeting Minutes

January 5th, 2026

Present:

IEDA Chair-Cara Spivey

IEDA Member Rick Alley

IEDA Member Daniel Ingram

IEDA Member Alicia Bales

IEDA Member Tammy Smith

IEDA Member Lucie D'Amato

Absent:

IEDA Member Justin Takach

Staff members present were Attorney Brad Pyott and Town Manager LeeAnne Regon.

CALL TO ORDER

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

MINUTES

IEDA Chair Spivey started off by officially welcoming our new members, Rick Alley and Daniel Ingram.

IEDA Member D'Amato made a motion to approve the minutes for November and December, 2025. Motion was seconded by IEDA Member Smith. On vote, Chair Spivey, aye; IEDA Member Bales, aye; IEDA Member Alley, aye; IEDA Member Ingram, aye; IEDA Member Smith, aye; IEDA Member D'Amato, aye.

Chair Spivey made a motion to appoint IEDA Member Smith as Vice Chair. IEDA Alley second. On vote, Chair Spivey, aye; IEDA Member Bales, aye; IEDA Member Alley, aye; IEDA Member Ingram, aye; IEDA Member Smith, aye; IEDA Member D'Amato, aye.

EBAG

Chair Spivey explained what EBAG is to the new members. Attorney Pyott suggested giving the new members a copy of the application. Chair Spivey is wanting to change the application but

would be glad to meet one on one with the new members to explain in greater detail the process and answer any questions they may have.

IEDA Chair Spivey- We followed up with letters to anyone that still had documentation missing and did not get anything from, Uncharted Adventures, Bohemian Gray and Mountain Laurel.

IEDA Chair Spivey suggests that at the top of the applications there be listed what documents that are needed. Those include deed or rental agreement, if the vehicles are in the company name and a copy of the title. Chair Spivey also suggests review EBAG once a quarter. The application when submitted should be complete and will not be reviewed if all documents required are not included. These grants are geared to new businesses. They give a presentation and have 30 days to complete the application and then turn in the full packet.

IEDA Member D'Amato-Does the business awarded the grant have to remain open for at least 9 years? Attorney Pyott-With a 4 year grant they have to be open for 5 years after awards finish. There are retention requirements.

ONGOING PROJECTS

FARMERS MARKET PROJECT:

Town Manager Regon-Paul with Heritage Metal will be ordering materials in January and plan to begin work in February. It is on track to be complete May of 2026.

RIVERSIDE DR PROPERTY:

Chair Spivey: This has become more of a hub. The Ramey Lot has become an eye sore and needs improvement. Soccer fields a park and track for walking, especially for our elderly community, have been discussed. One issue with the Ramey's lot is flooding. We are going to need engineers to find ways to prevent flooding in order to attract businesses.

IEDA Member Bales-Are we going to have some kind of ground breaking or ribbon cutting ceremony for the Farmers Market? Town Manager Regon-This was discussed and thought o be a great idea. Also, the Tazewell Farmers Market has been tasked with getting signage.

IEDA CHAIR Spivey-We are looking at getting signage on 460 that brings attention to the Farmers Market.

IEDA Member Smith-We need to address sidewalks; we need installation and repair. By the post office there is metal sticking up, its crumbling and causes a tripping hazard.

IEDA Member Bales- We need to look at lighting in the area as well.

MISCELLANEOUS:

IEDA CHAIR Spivey: We have not received an update from the County IDA lately so we are at a standstill at the moment.

IEDA Chair Spivey gave the new members a history of a possible cannery and commercial kitchen.

IEDA Member Alley: county had a cannery once before but didn't last long.

IEDA Chair Spivey: The cannery is just a small part of this; it's the commercial kitchen that we can get behind.

MOUNTAIN BIKING PROJECT:

Still trying to get easements signed.

BILLY WAGNER PROJECT

Next meeting is Wednesday at 4:30. LOC with National Bank for \$50,000 and Chair Spivey will be able to sign.

March 5K Shamrock 5K is partnering with Wayfarer on this and will be March 14th at 5:00.

Polar Plunge is scheduled for February 28th as well.

VEZ APPLICATION:

Attorney Pyott-Have we heard anything on the letter sent out?

Town Manager Regon-no not yet. I did give it to Executive Assistant Reeves and the letters were sent out.

Attorney Pyott- We will probably be getting VEZ applications for meals tax.

ADJOURNMENT

IEDA Member D'Amato made a motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by IEDA Member Alley. On vote, Chair Spivey, aye; IEDA Member Bales, aye; IEDA Member Alley, aye; IEDA Member Ingram, aye; IEDA Member Smith, aye; IEDA Member D'Amato, aye.

Adjourned at 5:26p.m.