

KENYON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, March 25, 2025

**Commissioners present:** John Mortensen, Chris Mallery, Stuart Campbell, Don Kirchmann, and Mary Bailey

**Commissioners Absent:**

**Others in Attendance:** Todd Kieffer, City Administrator Scott Lehner, Jeff Traxler, Jill Warner

The EDA meeting was held at City Hall. The meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion by Campbell seconded by Bailey to approve the agenda. Motion carried 5-0-0.

**APPROVE MINUTES AND FINANCIALS**

Financials were not updated. February minutes and financials will be approved in April.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS/COMMENTS**

**Jeff Traxler: Façade Improvement Projects – Traxler Power, Traxler Law, NAPA**

Jeff Traxler expressed his concerns about only one of his three façade applications being approved at the February meeting. He stated that there are three separate businesses with three different addresses.

**Jill Warner: Discuss Development of Commercial Club**

Jill Warner reviewed the development of the Kenyon Commercial Club. The club would like to work together with the City to promote local businesses with Merchant Monday. They plan to use social media to promote specific businesses. They have had two meetings so far and have learned that meetings are better attended if held after working hours.

**REPORTS**

**Jill Warner-Update on March 13 Community Foundation Meeting**

Jill Warner reported that five people attended the March 13 meeting. The goal is to have eight to ten people on this board. The board will make the decisions and there will be additional volunteers for the various activities.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Kenyon Foundation Meeting**

John Mortensen updated the EDA on the Kenyon Foundation meeting. They need to develop a Foundation board with eight to ten members. They plan to utilize the local newspapers to educate local residents on the benefits of the foundation. The next Kenyon Foundation meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 28, 2025, at 6:30 pm at the All Seasons Community Center.

**Kenyon Business Survey Results**

Kieffer reviewed the results of the Kenyon Business Survey. Beautification of the downtown area was one of the biggest wants of the businesses. One idea was to explore hanging plants on the city light poles. Research will need to be done to see if the light poles can support hanging plants, if the poles need painting, and who would water the plants. There was discussion on planting rose bushes verses rose trees and what would look best on the boulevard. There was a suggestion to add custom signs on each end of rose boulevard to draw more attention for visitors passing through. The downtown businesses also would like to find a way to increase foot traffic in the downtown area. Ideas were to fill up vacant store fronts, restore the walking tour, and market outside Kenyon city limits with billboards, social media, and decorative media on the city website.

### **Kenyon Business Directory 02.13.25 Update**

Kieffer encouraged members to continue providing him with business entity updates. The city website will have a full list of business entities to date.

### **University of MN: Center for Transportation Studies**

Todd Kieffer reported that an introductory meeting was held on March 18, 2025 after receiving the grant. The Kenyon residents will be informed of the transportation study via articles placed in the Messenger and Leader.

### **Vacant NAPA Store Update**

The Kenyon Municipal Liquor Store owns the building at 641 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. The city council approved moving forward with expanding the liquor store at the March council meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Industrial Park Update**

##### **St. Marc Materials**

Kieffer reported that he met with Eric Hanke of St. Marc Materials. He is interested in submitting a bid for the entire industrial park.

##### **Grow Farm**

Kieffer stated that he met with a party that is interested in having a grow farm on a lot in the industrial park. This party may be interested in a possible expansion after year one.

#### **Façade Improvement Applications**

##### **Traxler Parts Center – NAPA- \$3,700**

Motion by Bailey seconded by Mallery to approve the Façade Improvement for Traxler Parts-NAPA in the amount of \$3,700. Motion carried 5-0-0.

##### **Traxler Power & Equipment - \$4,000**

Motion by Bailey seconded by Campbell to approve the Façade Improvement for Traxler Power in the amount of \$4,000. Motion carried 5-0-0.

##### **Traxler Law - \$3,050**

Motion by Bailey seconded by Campbell to approve the Façade Improvement for Traxler Law in the amount of \$3,050. Motion carried 5-0-0.

#### **ITEMS FOR NEXT EDA MEETING**

- A. Façade Language
- B. Industrial Park Update
- C. Downtown Beautification

#### **COMMENTS**

Next EDA Meeting: Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at 8:00 AM at City Hall

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Bailey seconded by Campbell to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 a.m. Motion Carried 5-0-0.