



# CITY OF FRANKLIN

Community Development DEPARTMENT

## MINUTES

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

October 14, 2014

#### **Members Present:**

Ken Austin	President
Josh DeArmitt	Secretary
John Ditmars	Member
H. Lee Hodgen	Member

#### **Members Absent:**

Jake Sappenfield	Vice-President
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#### **Others Present:**

Rob H. Schafstall	Legal Counsel
Krista Linke	Director of Community Development
Jaime Shilts	Recording Secretary

#### **Call to Order:**

Ken Austin called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

Rob Schafstall stated that in the section in the minutes where Mayor McGuinness talks about the FDC, the discussion of Josh DeArmitt should be moved to a separate section. Lee Hodgen made a motion to approve the August 12th, 2014 minutes with corrections. John Ditmars seconded the motion. The motion carried.

#### **Old Business:**

None.

#### **New Business:**

##### **EDC 2014-05: Faulkenburg Printing:**

Ms. Linke stated the request is for a 5 year tax abatement for the interior build out of \$170,000 in real property and a 5 year abatement for \$400,000 in personal property.

James E. Faulkenburg stated the business has been going for 68 year. He stated they are moving to Franklin due to increased costs in utilities and taxes. He stated the building on Amy Lane is perfect for them and will cut their overhead costs. They will be doing updates to the building. He stated they are a commercial printer and will be purchasing a new printer. He stated they will have 4-5 new employees. It will take 2 new people to run the new machine, 1 person to do the bookbinding, 1 new sales person, and someone for the estimating.

Mr. Faulkenburg confirmed that the machine will be new to Indiana. The cost of the printer is \$375,000 plus \$50,000 shipping and the cost of getting the machine set up. Ms. Linke stated the property has not been designated an ERA and will require two City Council meetings.

Lee Hodgen made a motion to find resolution EDC 2014-05 in compliance with findings A-E under Indiana code 6-1.1-12.1-3 on a tax abatement on real property. Josh DeArmitt seconded the motion. The motion carried.

John Ditmars made a motion to find resolution EDC 2014-05 in compliance with findings under Indiana code 6-1.1-12.1-4.5 on a tax abatement on personal property. Ken Austin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Falkenburg stated the employee wages are \$24 per hour. Mr. Faulkenburg stated he has a press from 1975 and it's still running and can last 50-70 years. The press he is buying is 13 years old and he can expect another 30 years out of it.

Mr. Austin stated the request is for 5 year for real property for the build out. Mr. Ditmars suggested that since there is a build out and not new construction that the abatement be 3 years instead of 5.

John Ditmars made a motion to recommend a 3 year abatement on the \$170,000.00 real property investment and a 5 year abatement on the \$400,000.00 personal property investment with a 2% economic development fee. Lee Hodgen seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**EDC 2014-06: Countertop Connections, Inc.:**

Ms. Linke stated the business is to be located at 3042 Hudson Street, which is part of the RJ Parkway Industrial Park. They are requesting a 10 year abatement on \$400,000 in real property. The new building will be 9600 sq. ft.

Sherry Caudill, co-owner of Countertop Connections, stated the business started about 20 years ago. They have been on the south side of Indianapolis but have run out of space and are building a new facility. They build countertops for residential and commercial customers. They bought the property about 7-8 years ago and are now ready to expand.

Lee Hodgen made a motion to find resolution EDC 2014-06 in compliance with findings A-E under Indiana code 6-1.1-12.1-3 on a tax abatement on real property. Josh DeArmitt seconded the motion. The motion carried.

John Ditmars made a motion to find the property in compliance with the State of Indiana. Lee Hodgen seconded the motion.

Ms. Linke stated when there are less than 5 of these types of establishments in Johnson County and there is not economic information offered so she doesn't have good salary comparison data for the countertop industry. She stated it shows that there are not many types of this business in Johnson County. Ms. Caudill stated they will be creating a minimum of 2 new jobs. She stated there will be 12 total full time jobs. Ms. Linke stated that the average hourly wage may come out a bit differently as to what the petitioner is showing based on how she figures the amount. Ms. Caudill stated they do offer benefits for their employees.

John Ditmars made a motion to recommend a 5 year abatement on \$400,000 for real property including a 2% economic development fee. Josh DeArmitt seconded the motion.

**Other Business:**

Mr. Austin stated they Board has received a thank you note from The Education Foundation for the \$3000.00 they received from the EDC.

Cheryl Morphew stated there are working with several companies and are hoping they make decisions before the end of the year.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. Respectfully submitted this 9th day of December, 2014.

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Ken Austin, President

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Josh DeArmitt, Secretary