CITY OF TIOGA

Tioga Fund Advisory Board Minutes Tuesday, December 12, 2023

<u>Call to Order:</u> A meeting of the Tioga Fund Advisory Board of the City of Tioga was called to order at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at the Tioga City Hall by President of the Tioga Fund Advisory Board Myles Rosencrans.

PRESENT: Myles Rosencrans, Pat Alberts, Wendy Lenzen, Nathan Germundson and Ronica Pederson

ABSENT: None Guest: None

Opening: Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes: October 10, 2023 Minutes

Alberts made a motion to approve the minutes of October 10, 2023; second by Lenzen.

Call: Aye: Myles Rosencrans, Pat Alberts, Nathan Germundson, Wendy Lenzen and Ronica Pederson

Nay: None

Reports: Tioga Fund Balance Sheet

Lenzen made a motion to approve the balance sheet as presented; second by Alberts.

Call: Aye: Myles Rosencrans, Pat Alberts, Nathan Germundson, Wendy Lenzen and Ronica Pederson

Nay: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

1.) Tioga Area Economic Development Corporation Application for 2024 Operating Expenses

Lenzen and Germundson spoke on behalf of the TAEDC application for operating expenses for the upcoming 2024 year. Alberts asked what is included with the increases in the expenses, Lenzen explained as the TAEDC moved locations to the Tioga Tire Shop office and expect an increase in office supplies. Also, the previous location didn't have a phone line and they have added a phone line with the internet connection they pay for. Pederson stated the estimate of \$5,000.00 for Hotels/Conventions seems a bit high. Lenzen explained the board wants to be able to send the Director they are hoping to hire and a board member to the conventions, so the hotel, conventions, mileage and dues and memberships would be double to account for the 2 people they would like to send. Alberts also asked what type of conventions will they be attending. Lenzen explained ND Economic Development holds a 3-day workshop, another workshop in Jamestown, and a Tri-State Economic Development that is held in South Dakota. Alberts also asked about the Advertisements Germundson and Lenzen explained the added costs of Bek TV advertisements and they would like to continue those ads and host a public showing at the Tioga Theater. Pederson also noted the TAEDC currently has almost \$30,000.00 in the bank and would like to know if that is being used for anything. Lenzen explained it is for additional events or if they support another event such as matching funds for the Rev Event. Rosencrans also stated that at the end of the year any funds over \$150,000.00 get removed from the Economic Development portion of the Tioga Fund. Alberts asked what happens to the money. Pederson explain per the Home Rule Charter they amount over the \$150,000.00 get put into the Property Tax Relief to help offset costs in the budget and keep property taxes down in the city limits.

Alberts made a motion to approve the Tioga Area Economic Development Corporation application from the Economic Development Fund of the Tioga Fund for \$34,950.00; second by Pederson.

Call: Aye: Myles Rosencrans, Pat Alberts, and Ronica Pederson

Nay: None

Abstained: Nathan Germundson and Wendy Lenzen

2.) Tioga Area Economic Development Corporation Application for Full Time Director Position of the TAEDC Lenzen explained they didn't have a position the last year and the board members stepped up and volunteered much of their time but still felt like they had a lot of missed opportunities to do things to benefit the community. The TAEDC Board decided to come back to the Tioga Fund to request the funding for the position. Lenzen also explained the board has been approached from people within the community for that position and the board would hire from within the community. Rosencrans stated years ago the position was split with the City and the TAEDC and the person the City hired this last year quit. Pederson stated the City did rehire someone in that position a few weeks ago. Rosencrans stated that the last time the Tioga Fund saw this application the struggled with the \$80,000.00 requested in 2021. Pederson asked what happens if they hire someone with not as much experience and they hire at a lesser rate, or if they aren't able to hire the position for several months into the new year. Lenzen stated they would return any portion of unused funds. Rosencrans asked if it is a full time or part time position. Lenzen explained that it is difficult to hire part time and people want to see it full time. Alberts stated the last person that held this position with the TAEDC was not the most popular person in Tioga, what is the TAEDC board going to do to avoid repeating the same issues. Lenzen stated that the board doesn't want that and the position will be filled with someone who resides in Tioga and the board is dedicated to sourcing the right person for the position. Germundson reiterated what Lenzen stated and explained that the board has worked hard trying to operate this last year without the position and the board is limited on what they can do and would like to fill this position to coordinate everything. Germundson stated you can see a need for more positions within the community with the Rec council has hired a Rec Director, the Fire Department has a paid administrative person, the Chamber of Commerce has hired a part time person. Discussion continued.

Alberts made a motion to approve the Tioga Area Economic Development Corporation application from the Economic Development Fund in the amount of \$75,000.00 with the condition that any unused portion is returned to the Tioga Fund; second by Pederson

Call: Aye: Myles Rosencrans, Pat Alberts, and Ronica Pederson

Nay: None

Abstained: Nathan Germundson and Wendy Lenzen

Rosencrans commented that one thing that really needs to be done, is that the City and Tioga Area Economic Development Corporation need to make amends; it is the most important thing that needs to happen so the two entities can work together for the community.

With no further business, the meeting of the Tioga Fund Advisory Board was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

ATTEST:	Myles Rosencrans, President of the Tioga Fund Advisory Board