

**GROVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2016
4:00 PM**

The Grove Economic Development Authority met in regular session on Monday, January 25, 2016 at 4:00 PM with Chairman, Ron Lay presiding. Members present were Ivan Devitt, Keith Martin, David Adzigian and Mike Lewandowski. Also present was General Manager, Bill Keefer; Assistant General Manager, Debbie Bottoroff and City Clerk, Bonnie Buzzard. City Treasurer, Lisa Allred was absent.

Devitt made the motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Seconded by Adzigian. AYE: Devitt, Martin, Adzigian and Lay. NAY: None. Lewandowski abstained. Motion carried.

Adzigian made the motion to approve the purchase order register. Seconded by Devitt. AYE: Devitt, Martin, Adzigian, Lewandowski and Lay. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Lay opened the floor for discussion with respect to payment reimbursement to Robert Husong for fence construction. Keefer reported that the funds to reimburse Husong for approximately 50% of the cost to construct a fence that borders the 33 acres that GEDA purchases from him in 2012. The purchasing agreement does not specifically outline this reimbursement but members of the City staff confirmed that there was a verbal agreement made between Mr. Husong and an authorized representative of the City of Grove. Martin made the motion to approve the reimbursement of \$2,000 as presented and discussed. Seconded by Adzigian. AYE: Devitt, Martin, Adzigian, Lewandowski and Lay. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Lay then opened the floor for discussion with respect to the acquisition and development of property for industrial use. Keefer noted that he doesn't have a great deal to report on this subject. He has however exchanged several phone calls and emails with property owner Chris White who has approximately 30 acres along the west side of the airport. His asking price for that property was about \$500,000 which is equivalent to about \$17,000 per acre. Keefer noted to him that the price is rather high and asked if he was opened for negotiations. White indicated that he would be opened to reasonable negotiation. Keefer indicated that he wanted to visit with the Board before contacting him back prior to further discussion. Keefer mentioned that he had done some research and discovered that the some recent land acquisitions made between the City and the Airport property was purchased \$7,000 to \$8,000 per acre. The Board agreed that amount does seem high for property of that area. The Board also discussed with the Staff other proposed properties in the area of the Airport and Ford Road that might possible be for sale. No action was taken.

GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT:

Keefer highlighted the Board on the Ron Drake presentation that was made at the recent City Council meeting, and to the Grove Rotary Club pertaining to the downtown area. Keefer addressed all of the additional parking spaces that he pointed out during the presentation that are hidden behind some the downtown buildings.

TRUSTEES REPORT:

Devitt reported that the overhead door in the large room of the Community Center needs to address. Keefer added that he needs to visit with Buildings & Grounds about that project.

Adzigian asked if the Staff has received any interest in the property behind the Grove EMS facility. Bottoroff noted that the Staff has, but it was more of a recreational purpose than business.

Lewandowski commented on the downtown parking and suggested that the City partnership with the Convention Tourism Board, and that signage would be a great idea.

At 5:02 PM Devitt made the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Lewandowski. AYE: Devitt, Martin, Adzigian, Lewandowski and Lay. NAY: None. Motion carried.