Present: Chair Ron Jabs, Dave Wolf, Ray Sandey, and Dan Elke; Council Representative Joe Thill (7:07) and Council Representative Tanya Velishek (7:07).

Not Present: None

Staff Present: Thomas Nikunen, Interim City Administrator; Tim Loose, City Engineer; Gar Ehret, Contractor with Kimley-Horn; Laura Chamberlain, Planning Intern.

Others Present: Thom Boncher and Jeff Will.

1.0 Roll Call: Chair Ron Jabs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2.0 Approve Minutes of the March 18, 2014 Regular Meeting

Motion by Wolf, second by Elke to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2014 meeting as presented. Motion passed 4-0.

3.0 Management Report

A. Interview Applicant for EDA – Dr. Chuck Cook

The applicant did not arrive, the interview has been postponed until the next EDA meeting.

B. Update on 169/282/CR 9 Interchange Project

Consultant Ehret of Kimley-Horn updated the EDA on the most recent meeting with MnDOT, business owners along the highway, and City Representatives concerning the Highway 169 interchange at 282 & County Road 9. From the most recent meeting, it has become apparent that MnDOT is now allowing the interchange to become a City-driven endeavor. After much discussion, Ehret suggested that the City could choose one of the options they & business owners approve of and then take measures to officially designate land impacted by those options; thus allowing development to continue outside of those designated areas. EDA members asked if Ehret could bring a proposal back to the next EDA meeting to see what that process would entail.

Motion by Velishek, second by Elke to go forward with Ehret/Kimley-Horn to draft up the process and costs of both options for the city to designate a “footprint” for the Highway 169 interchange.

C. Discuss Recommendations for Downtown Advisory Committee

Planning Intern Chamberlain introduced the list of candidates recommended to the EDA for approval to sit on the new Downtown Advisory Committee. These
candidates were interviewed by a panel on April 3, 2014. Seven candidates were recommended to fill seven seats.

Motion by Velishek, second by Sandey to recommend to Council the approval of the selected candidates for the Downtown Advisory Committee

D. Update on Wolf Motors Expansion Project
EDA member Wolf raised concerns that the City’s zoning ordinance and building permit process are getting in the way of commercial development. Planning Intern Chamberlain explained the current process and why sticking to the zoning ordinance was important for current and future development. Discussion followed concerning the focus of new Planners and positions at the city should be.

E. Status of Strom Property
Interim City Administrator Nikunen updated the EDA that the City’s stay on the Strom Property will be up in June after which it will go to public auction.

F. Chamber of Commerce – Greg Ott
Mr. Ott did not arrive, so no Chamber of Commerce update was given.

G. General Business Updates
None

H. Other Items
Council Representative Velishek asked if Ames/Jordan Transformer was eligible for the Jobs for Fees program. Nikunen said he would look into it.

4.0 Next Meeting – Tuesday, May 20th, 2014

5.0 Adjournment

Motion by Velishek, Second by Elke to adjourn at 9:40 pm. Motion passed 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Chamberlain
Planning Intern