

Hartsville/Trousdale County Industrial Development Board

Minutes for meeting July 11th 2023 7:30 P.M. Meeting was recorded.

Chairman Scott Graves called the meeting to order promptly at 7:30 with members present Heather Bay, Tracey Belcher – Treasurer, Scott Graves – Chairman, Paul Knudsen – Secretary, Craig Moorland, Seth Thurman – Vice Chairman, Jack McCall – Mayor. Leah Petty being the only member not in attendance a quorum was called.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes from the last meeting were reviewed and a motion to approve as presented was made by Seth Thurman and second by Craig Moorland, motion passed unanimously.

The treasurer's report was presented next with a motion to approve as presented by Craig Moorland and second by Heather Bay, motion passed unanimously.

Scott Graves then gave comments on the latest communication with Retail Strategies on businesses that would have potential for Hartsville/Trousdale County, some named were Popeye's, Burger King, Jacks, Ace, a major grocery chain and Lowe's. There is a conference in Nashville geared to networking with such potential businesses on August 8th 10:00 A.M. - 10:00 P.M. Discussion ensued on the advisability of sending someone. Seth Thurman making a motion to send someone and Heather Bay second, motion carried unanimously. Paul Knudsen volunteered and Jack McCall agreed to attend as well. Scott Graves to make the reservations. Finally, Scott Graves presented Retail Strategies data suggesting a 27% increase in traffic in the community over the last 2 years and stated a review of sales tax receipts implied a 27.9% increase. This concluded the Retail Strategies report.

Carson Jones from IRIS Fuel Tech. then gave the board a presentation on the company's business growth since 11/2020. He explained the challenges he is facing with new growth opportunities and a lack of square footage, sewer, and the need for more power to his building. He is experiencing some frustration with not being able to have a longer-term lease on the facility that allows him to make the needed expansion and upgrades to accommodate new contracts from Toro in April 2024 and Polaris in November 2024. He is also experiencing potential safety issues from a portable loading dock and heavy equipment operating in too small a space. After he left much discussion ensued about what the board could do to assist him. With no clear path, the board decided that more conversations with decision makers on the property was the best path.

Paul Knudsen then gave a quick update on the Cobblestone hotel project.

Mayor McCall gave the mayor's update which included comments on the Trey Park project, Ward School, and the Goose Gala.

With no one from the public present there were no public comments and Craig Moorland made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Seth Thurman and Chairman Scott Graves declared the meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Paul Knudsen, Secretary