

The Carroll County Industrial Development Authority met Oct. 6, 2015, at the Carroll County Governmental Complex.

Members present: Chairman Barry Hicks, Vice-Chairman Clinton Willie, Andy Jackson, Roger Wilson, Richard Sowers, Benny Robinson and Larry Chambers.

Also, Gary Larrowe, County Administrator and IDA Administrator; and Sandy West, treasurer.

Minutes

Mr. Wilson made the motion to approve the minutes of the Sept. 9, 2015 meeting as received, seconded by Mr. Robinson, and approved.

Closed Meeting

Upon a motion by Mr. Willie, seconded by Mr. Chambers and passed unanimously, the Authority entered into a closed meeting, for disposition of property, prospective business discussion and discussion of Legal Matters in accordance with Section 2.2-3711 (A1, A3, A5, A7) of the Code of Virginia.

Return to Regular Session – Certification

On a motion by Mr. Willie and seconded by Mr. Robinson and approved, the IDA returned to regular session and adopted the following resolution.

WHEREAS, the Authority has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.1-3711 (A1, A3, A5, A7) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this Authority that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Authority hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the Authority.

IDA Projects

Chairman Hicks read a statement about some of the positive projects the IDA has worked on in recent months.

The IDA strives to create capital investment and employment in Carroll County at reasonable risk levels.

With regard to any and all transactions with Classic Creations, the IDA has continually had full knowledge of all efforts to get the company landed and to assist in making it successful.

Hicks pointed out that as of Oct. 6, 2015, Classic Creations had 45 full-time employees. The business has experienced strong growth since it opened in January 2014. Classic Creations had a note with the IDA that was to be paid off in 10 years, however due to the success of the company, the note was paid off in 2015, some eight and one half years early. Being able to pay the debt early is a testament to the strength of Classic Creations and attributed directly to the Corporate Management.

The IDA gave IDA Executive Director (Gary Larrowe) orders to negotiate with the Company (while in closed session) to provide a waiver of interest charges with the payoff of the note. The Executive Director did negotiate within the parameter given and gained \$5,000 that was used to pay for the IDA legal fees associated with the project, not those of Classic Creations.

With regard to liability, the IDA had the option of not providing a waiver of the interest charges and keeping the note (along with full liability) or to reduce the loan liability to the IDA to zero by negotiating down the interest charges. It was the best interest of the IDA to have a “bird in the hand rather than two birds in the bush.” Note that the IDA is not getting any interest on our money in the bank due to market forces.

To be able to make Classic Creations a success, it took a lot of creative thinking and hard work. As folks say, “If it were easy everyone would do it.” The IDA is VERY pleased to have Classic Creations in our community and making positive impacts by making capital investments and employing local citizens.

This is the type of company that can assist in changing Carroll County to a better place, however, we almost lost this project five (5) times and if not for the difficult work of all, this project would not be here today. If the IDA had not taken progressive actions, we would potentially have an empty building in the Carroll County Industrial Park along with 45 folks looking for work who are gainfully employed today.

The IDA is proud of the achievements on this and other projects.

Claims Report

After reviewing, Mr. Chambers made the motion to pay the claims, seconded by Mr. Sowers, and approved.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Jackson made the motion to approve the treasurer's report, seconded by Mr. Willie, and approved.

Woodlawn School Update

Mr. Larrowe reported that letters were being mailed on Oct. 7 to homeowners who live around Woodlawn School to determine their interest in purchasing property. He said they would be given a time limit to respond. The survey of school property has also been completed by surveyor Brian Sutphin.

Wildwood Update

Mr. Larrowe said plans were underway to get a natural gas line to the Wildwood property by Dec. 31 and use the tap located on property in the Coon Ridge community. He said this would complete the infrastructure to the property.

Adjournment

Mr. Willie made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Jackson, and approved.

NOTE: The next meeting of the IDA will be held Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2015 at 4 p.m. at the Carroll County Governmental Complex in Hillsville.

Chairman:

Secretary: