Hiawatha Economic Development Corporation (HEDCO) met on September 19, 2019 in the Multi-Purpose Room at Hiawatha City Hall. Pat Callanan opened the meeting at 11:45 a.m. Members present: Pat Callanan, Jeremy Ries, CJ Kleene, Kirk Hayden, Tyler McCarville, Emily Upah and Melissa White. Absent: Kyle Kunz, Nic Canfield, Hassan Igram, Chad Pelley, Angel Suttie, Mark Parmenter, Kyle Kunz, and Joel Rochleau. Guests present: City Administrator Kim Downs, Administrative Coordinator Ambyr Severson. Jamie Toledo of Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance and Linn County Supervisor District 1, Stacey Walker.

- Due to the lack of a quorum the following items were not acted upon.

1. **Board Member Appointment**

   Moved to November 21, 2019 meeting.

2. **Approval of Minutes and Financial Statements-**

   Moved to November 21, 2019 meeting.

3. **Linn County Supervisor Stacey Walker – Fair Chance Hiring**

   Supervisor Walker explained that Fair Chance Hiring means that applicants with a record are not automatically disqualified from consideration for hiring. This will allow people with records access to workforce therefore breaking the cycle of poverty.

   Americans for Prosperity, a Koch Brothers organization, is also concerned with Fair Chance hiring. Together they are asking companies to do background checks later in the process and are training companies to look further into background checks because they're not always accurate.

   Linn County has recently banned the box that asks if you've ever been convicted of a crime. Some jobs require the box but most jobs can wait until later in the process to come forth with that question.

   Ries asked if this is a broad stroke to get this passed into legislation or business? Walker replied that he is working with the Koch Brothers and republicans to get this passed.

   Walker added that he also holds expungement clinics to help clean up records. He holds these twice a year with the help of legal aid and University of Iowa College of Law students to renegotiate fees.

   *no action required by HEDCO. The presentation was meant to be an informational forum.

   Agenda item #8 was moved up on the agenda due to time.

8. **New Construction/Development Update**

City Engineer, John Bender, advised that Tower Terrace interchange will go out for bids in FY 2021. This project has moved in lightyears compared to other projects of its kind. Reports were conducted in 2012, 2014 and 2015 that supported the proposal that a ramp was needed on Tower Terrace. Hiawatha, Marion, Robins and Linn County went to a 2014 DOT meeting with a collective 5 million dollars to support the project. The ramp will be a two-year project and will consist of a diverging diamond.

Bender also advised that there is a work session on Tuesday, September 24th to inform the public the city is considering a round-a-bout vs. a lighted intersection at Tower Terrace and North Center Point Road inconjunction with the interchange construction.

Note items 4-7 were not discussed due to the lack of time.

4. Nomination Mailer/Postcard promoting Retail Businesses for the promotion of HEDCO sponsorships

Moved to November 21, 2019 meeting.

5.
Marketing Update

Moved to November 21, 2019 meeting.

6.Home Base Iowa

Moved to November 21, 2019 meeting.

7.Review/Comments – State of the City

Moved to November 21, 2019 meeting.

9. Next HEDCO meeting date November 21, 2019

The unofficial meeting adjourned at 1:11 p.m.

Pat Collaran

Pat Callanan, Chair

ATTEST:

_____

Ambyr Severson, Admin. Coordinator