

**City of Crystal Lake Economic Development Committee  
December 1, 2020 – 8:00 a.m.  
Municipal Complex – City Training Room**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m. by Mr. Fowler.

**Roll Call/Attendance**

Members Affrunti, Leech, Saidler, Eich, DeHaan and Fowler were present. Members Reece, Rainwater and McClain were absent. Heather Maieritsch, Economic Development Manager was also present.

**Public Participation**

James Scharpf from Tessler Construction was present but did not wish to speak.

**Approve Minutes from the October 27, 2020 Meeting**

Mr. Saidler moved to approve the minutes from the August 25, 2020 EDC meeting. Mr. Dehaan seconded the motion. On voice vote, members Affrunti, Leech, Saidler, Eich, DeHaan and Fowler voted aye. Motion passed.

**I Shop Crystal Lake Update**

Ms. Maieritsch said the City is continuing support for local businesses thru the I Shop campaign platform to help businesses during this challenging time.

**Business Anniversaries and Business Tours**

Ms. Maieritsch said due to COVID all large group business tours are on hold until further notice.

**Organization reports:**

**Downtown Crystal Lake**

Mr. Rainwater said that is it great to see the resilience of the stores in Downtown Crystal Lake. The Downtown continues to encourage people to support businesses in the downtown and create events that will attract people to the downtown.

**Crystal Lake Chamber**

Chamber President, Bill Eich, announced the Chamber launched a new website to enhance their offerings to the community and become the place people look to learn more about businesses, programs and services within the community. The Chamber is also working with the Herald on the 2021-2022 Community Guide which will be released mid-March. The Chamber is also currently planning the Spring Home & Business Expo for 2021 and considering new ways to safely host the event.

**City of Crystal Lake**

Ms. Maieritsch said the city remains focused on business outreach and retention efforts. The City Council approved extending the temporary outdoor dining at restaurants until December 31<sup>st</sup> and ran a number of press release in support of dining at Crystal Lake restaurants. The City also expanded the Business Transition Grant to now include reimbursement for tents and outdoor heating elements. The Impacted Business Relief grant has received a significant number of applicants and the businesses are beginning to receive financial assistance payments.

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Despite uncertain economic times Crystal Lake is continuing to receive a lot of new residential permits and discuss new housing developments with potential developers. A handful of new businesses to open recently include: Moretti's, JCLicht, A-Z Interiors, Jude's, The Facial Bar and Protide Pharmaceuticals.

Crystal Lake has a strong market and we will continue to leverage that to help fill vacancies. We remain dedicated to helping support our existing businesses and attracting new businesses to our community.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 a.m.