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**CITY OF KALAMAZOO**  
**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**  
**Thursday, August 21, 2014 - 8:04 a.m. • Community Room, City Hall**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Nathan Bolton; Fritz Brown; Jim Escamilla; Kevan Hess; Barb Miller; Bob Miller; Patti Owens; Tom Schlueter; Nancy Troff

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** John MacKenzie; Doug Phillips

**CITY COMMISSIONERS/CITY STAFF PRESENT:** Jerome Kisscorni (Assistant City Manager); Marc Hatton (Development Manager); Eric Kemmer (Redevelopment Coordinator); Martin Markos (Executive Assistant); John Kneas (City Attorney)

Meeting was called to order at 8:04 a.m. by Chair Brown

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**MOTION TO EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS:** Mr. Markos reported that Mr. MacKenzie and Mr. Phillips had indicated that they would be absent. Ms. Miller moved to excuse those members; supported by Ms. Troff. Motion approved by voice vote unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Ms. Owens moved approval of the agenda; supported by Mr. Miller. Motion approved by voice vote unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF 15 May 2014:** Ms. Troff moved approval of the minutes; supported by Ms. Miller. Motion approved by voice vote unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF THE FINACIALS OF 30 June, 2014:** Mr. Kisscorni provided an overview of the second quarter financial including pointing out that some TIF funding would expire in 2016. Mr. Schlueter moved to approve the financials; supported by Mr. Bolton. Motion approved by voice vote unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**PRESENTATION BY SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN FIRST; JOE AGOSTINELLI.** Mr. Agostinelli provided the board with an overview of Southwest Michigan First's last quarter findings. He stated that there is a lack of skilled tradesmen in Kalamazoo Country and that businesses are starting to work towards filling that gap. Mr. Agostinelli pointed out that on 1 Oct the State would roll out a training program involving local businesses with a funding line of \$10M. Last year, \$280K came to Kalamazoo. Mr. Agostinelli stated that most of the calls they have received from companies were expansion projects, where size limitations are the issue. He informed the board that the spaces most frequently requested are 100K square feet with expansion capabilities up to 400K. Mr. Agostinelli told the board there is just not this kind of room within the limits of the City of Kalamazoo. He mentioned that while there are opportunities at Davis Creek, most businesses want to come in now (within 30-60 days) and start up. Mr. Agostinelli noted 1 graduate of the Business

Park and the opening of Newell Rubbermaid. He stated that Newell Rubbermaid is very happy with their location, has hired over 100 people and is progressing well.

**PRESENTATION OF 2013 ANNUA BY THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER FOR THE CITY OF KALAMAZOO, TOM SKROBOLA.** Mr. Skrobola provided the board with an explanation focusing on 3 parts of the 2013 EDC Budget review. Mr. Skrobola noted that the cover letter to the report provided to the board mentioned no significant findings with no disputes between auditors and management. He then pointed to section iii noting that unrestricted assets are up slightly. Lastly, Mr. Skrobola provided reasoning on why the revenue and expenditure seemed to “flip-flop.”

### COMMUNICATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

### OLD BUSINESS

None

### COMMUNICATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

### CITIZEN COMMENTS

None

### DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

None

**ADJOURNMENT:** 8:38 a.m.

  
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Martin N. Markos, Recording Secretary

  
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Fritz Brown, Chair