

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
CITY OF RAMSEY
ANOKA COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

The City of Ramsey Economic Development Authority (EDA) conducted a regular meeting on Thursday, October 8, 2020, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Chairperson Jim Steffen
 Member Scott Cords
 Member Ryan Heineman
 Member Mark Kuzma
 Member Chris Riley

Members Absent: Member Brian Burandt

Also Present: Sean Sullivan, Economic Development Manager
 Tim Gladhill, Deputy City Administrator

4.04: Consider Purchase Agreement for Outlot B, COR Stone Brook Academy; Case of Stories Foundation (Portions of the meeting may be closed to the public)

Manager Heineman stated that he will be abstaining from this discussion because he has a personal connection to the organization.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan presented the staff report. Sullivan highlighted the fact that this was a mixed-use project, the offer was within the City deal range and that it would involve the sale of a challenging remnant parcel.

Mark Thurston, representing the applicant, provided background information on the creation of Stories Foundation which aims to raise awareness on human trafficking and sex trafficking. He stated that their desire has been to have a brick and mortar building with a café with a small store component and apartments.

Chairperson Steffen asked if the project is being funded through donations and fundraising.

Mr. Thurston stated that it would be a combination of financing and donations/fundraising. He stated that the land would be paid for in cash. He provided details on the potential leasing of the apartment components.

Chairperson Steffen stated that loves the concept of mixed use with retail on the bottom and apartments on the top. He recognized that this remnant parcel is challenging and commented that this seems to be great use of that space.

Motion by Chairperson Steffen, seconded by Member Riley, to recommend to City Council to approve the Purchase Agreement for Outlot B, COR Stone Brook Academy, subject to City Attorney approval.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Steffen, Members Riley, Cords, and Kuzma. Voting No: None. Absent: Member Burandt. Abstain: Member Heineman.

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