

RESOLUTION 2021-14

REQUESTING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE THROUGH THE IDLE SITES REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAM TO SUPPORT THE BLACKHAWK JUNCTION REVELOPMENT PROJECT, AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF PRAIRIE DU CHIEN AS IT RELATES TO THE GRANT, AND RESOLVING TO MEET ALL FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS OF THE GRANT

WHEREAS, the City of Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin, hereby requests an Idle Site grant from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation for the purpose of assisting the proposed Blackhawk Junction project in Prairie du Chien's downtown area; and

WHEREAS, the property in question is a gateway to the community, a blighted property, and a contaminated site; and

WHEREAS, the redevelopment of the project is expected to ultimately create over \$10 million in new tax base, to expand housing opportunities in the community, and strengthen the commercial core of the City, and

WHEREAS, the 2004 *City of Prairie du Chien Downtown Development Master Plan* specifically identified this property as a high priority redevelopment site, and

WHEREAS, the 2005 *City of Prairie du Chien Comprehensive Plan*, identified the following economic development policies: a) encourage continued downtown revitalization to enhance economic activity and b) promote redevelopment of brownfields/contaminated sites; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Prairie du Chien declared the area blighted and adopted a Redevelopment Plan which included the objectives of housing and commercial redevelopment of the site; and

WHEREAS, the City, RDA, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources have worked together to perform the Phase 1 and Phase Environmental Site Assessments and Further Site Investigations and through an EPA Planning Grant to develop a redevelopment plan for the site, and

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2021, the Common Council created Tax Increment Financing District #8 to support the redevelopment efforts of the sites, and

WHEREAS, the City is committed to a) the continued redevelopment of Downtown Prairie du Chien; b) the support and growth of the housing in the community, and c) the redevelopment of vacant, blighted, and/or underutilized properties to grow the tax base, to create new jobs, and to support the commercial sector of Prairie du Chien; and

WHEREAS, the City has successfully applied for and administered numerous other state and federal grants; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Prairie du Chien to direct and authorize the City Administrator to submit an Idle Sites application to the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation; to sign all documents; and to take necessary action to undertake, direct, and complete the approved project;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Prairie du Chien will comply with state and federal rules for the program.

Duty adopted by the Common Council of the City of Prairie du Chien at a legal meeting on the 18th day of May 2021.

By a vote of: _____ in favor, _____ against, and _____ abstain.

David Hemmer, Mayor of the City of Prairie du Chien

ATTEST:

Chad Abram, Administrator of the City of Prairie du Chien