**GROVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**MONDAY, MAY 18, 2015**

**4:00 PM**

The Grove Economic Development Authority met in regular session on Monday, May 18, 2015 at 4:00 PM with Chairman, David Adzigian presiding. Members present were Keith Martin and Mike Lewandowski. Members(s) Bob Henkle and Ron lay was absent. Also present was General Manager, Bill Keefer; Assistant General Manager, Debbie Bottoroff and City Clerk, Bonnie Buzzard. City Treasurer, Lisa Allred was absent.

Martin made the motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Seconded by Lewandowski. AYE: Martin, Lewandowski and Adzigian. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Lewandowski made the motion to approve the purchase order register. Seconded by Martin. AYE: Martin, Lewandowski and Adzigian. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Adzigian opened the floor for discussion with respect to review of a proposed Sales Tax Incentive Policy for the downtown area. Keefer reported that on numerous occasions, the City has been approached regarding any incentives for new businesses, etc. In turn, the Downtown Development Committee through the Chamber of Commerce whether the City could identify/develop specific incentives for the designated downtown area. Options that have been identified have included utility waivers and sales tax rebates. Keefer noted that after reviewing the various options, a number of communities across Oklahoma have implemented a policy that reimburses a portion of sales tax collected from new businesses or a portion of new sales tax generated through an expansion of an existing business over a set period of time. Some of these policies are earmarked for a specific area of the community such as a downtown whereas others are open to an entire community. Keefer added that there are pros and cons to a citywide incentive policy. Keefer mentioned that he has provided the Board with a draft copy of the proposed Sales Tax Incentive Policy for the downtown area zoned as General Commercial District (C-2) for review. Keefer added that once approved by this Board it would need final approval from the City Council. The basic of the policy includes a 50% reimbursement of sales tax proceeds generated by that business for up to a five year period. These would be certain standards that would have to be met to continue to review the incentive. Keefer entertained questions, comments and concerns from the Board. He then added, that he would provide a better defined Resolution draft for the Board to consider at their next regular scheduled meeting. No action was taken.

**GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT**:

Keefer reported that he has attached copies of the minutes from the City Council. Staff will be included the Council minutes of the GEDA information as a means to keep the Board better informed.

Keefer then reported that the Staff would like to schedule a work session with the Board in the future to review and discuss the issues and shortcomings that the City encountered during the meetings and deliberations with Ferra Aerospace. Staff has respectfully requested information from the Federal Aviation Administration, and will gather some additional cost estimates for the extension of utilities in preparation of a work session.

At 5:05 PM Lewandowski made the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Martin. AYE: Martin, Lewandowski and Adzigian. NAY: None. Motion carried.