

**MINUTES of the ST. CHARLES CITY COUNCIL**  
**For Tuesday, April 26, 2016 held at 6:00 p.m. at**  
**830 Whitewater Avenue**  
**St. Charles, Minnesota**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councilmen:  
David Kramer  
Dave Braun (absent)  
Orv Dahl (absent)  
Wayne Getz  
Mayor John Schaber

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Cris Gastner, EDA Director and Nick Koverman (City Administrator).

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Cathy Groebner, Dan White, Paul Schmitt, Jeff Mintz, Geno Wentz, Tim Haltom, and Jill Veerkamp (St. Charles Press).

**1. ESTABLISH QUORUM/CALL TO ORDER**

Quorum was established with Mayor Schaber calling the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. APPROVAL of the AGENDA:**

Motion to approve the agenda: **David Kramer**  
No discussion.  
Motion carried.

**4. Notices and Communications.** None.

**5. Review of Financials.** No questions.

**6. Envirolastech Presentation.** Cris Gastner introduced Jeff Mintz, CEO of Envirolastech, who provided a brief history of the company and how the company will utilize 97-100% post-consumer materials to produce a variety of clean-tech thermoplastic building materials, including dimensional wood-alternative lumber, siding, and blocks. He introduced Geno Wentz and Paul Schmitt who are partners in the business. They provided additional background and understanding about the product and company. Cris Gastner explained that through working with the owners and competing against two additional communities, their request hinged on the city's ability to provide 4 acres of assistance for a cost of one dollar. Gastner expressed that in the initial year they would create 10-14 jobs with a goal of growing to 25 within 3 years. In addition, the company estimates electrical consumption to begin at approximately 250,000 kw and increasing to over 1 million. This would be a significant customer for the electric company. Mintz explained that it was the available infrastructure and potential relationships with existing community businesses that helped to shape the relationship. In addition, their proximity to Winona State as a possible feeder system for future engineers to help grow their business in polymers was an added benefit. The search for a new home for their corporate headquarters began nearly 4 months ago. After review of the business plan, Gastner relayed that the review committee recommended to the EDA for approval of the request. After hearing their proposal, the EDA in turn recommended approval of the 4 acre site to Envirolastech contingent upon two items: securing financing for the rest of the project, and providing a favorable feasibility study from the University of Iowa. Mr. Wentz said that they are working with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and that they do not require a conditional use permit because it is post-consumer recycling materials. Mayor Schaber expressed that he is impressed with the vision and their desire to stay local. All councilmen agreed and felt this would be a good fit for St. Charles. A motion was made to approve the offer of 4 acres for \$1 contingent upon the items previously discussed.

Motion to approve: **David Kramer**  
No further discussion.  
Motion carried.

**7. RAEDI Membership Approval.** Cris Gastner reviewed the request by the EDA for membership in the Rochester Area Economic Development Inc. for \$2,500 a year. Gastner discussed the various benefits and how this relationship helped to lead to St. Charles being considered for another project. A motion was made to approve membership in RAEDI for \$2,500.

Motion to approve: Wayne Getz  
No further discussion.  
Motion carried.

**UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES**

Dan White at 730 Whitewater Avenue welcomed the new company representatives. He talked about hoping to increase participation at senior dining and encouraged continued public transit participation as well.

Motion to adjourn at 6:40p.m.

Motion to approve: **Wayne Getz**

Motion declared carried.

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**John Schaber, Mayor**

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Nick Koverman, City Administrator**