

NORTHERN NEXUS  
Grand Traverse County Next Michigan Development Corporation

October 30, 2014

Vice Chair Easterday called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. in the Commission Chambers located in the Governmental Center, 400 Boardman Avenue, Traverse City, Michigan.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeanine Easterday, Chuck Korn (1:37 p.m.), Herb Lemcool, Glen Lile and Patrick Pahl

STAFF PRESENT: Marcia Carmoney, Jean Derenzy and John Sych

OTHERS PRESENT: David Scerbak and Phil Nicholls of Electro-Optics Technology, Inc.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Moved** by Lile, seconded by Pahl to approve the September 25, 2014 NMDC minutes as presented. **Approved unanimously.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Korn arrived at 1:37 p.m.

STAFF REVIEW OF ABATEMENT REQUEST

As reported at the September meeting, Electro-Optics Technology (EOT) has made application for consideration for personal and real property tax abatement. EOT was awarded 57 points on the abatement score sheet making them eligible for 4 years of personal property abatement and 8 years for real property. Derenzy provided an overview of the request and its impact on the local taxing jurisdictions. Staff is working with Northwestern Michigan College and UpJohn Institute in creating an input model for new businesses coming in, and in this case, business expansion and its impact on the local economy, including indirect impact such as the creation of spin-off jobs. David Scerbak, CEO & CTO of Electro-Optics Technology recounted the company's history and described their product line.

PUBLIC HEARING – ELECTRO-OPTICS TECHNOLOGY REQUEST FOR ABATEMENT

Chair Korn opened the Public Hearing at 1:53 p.m.

Gail Parsons, Interim Director for Traverse Area District Library – support abatement. The impact of the abatement on the Library was discussed.

Tom Menzel, Executive Director for Bay Area Transportation Authority was not present, but sent an email in support of the abatement. Derenzy read the email for the record.

Korn closed the Public Hearing at 1:56 p.m.

**Moved** by Lemcool, seconded by Lile that based on the above outlined information, Electro Optics Technology meets the threshold of positive impact and is recommended to be granted a 4 year personal property abatement and an 8 year real property abatement.

**Approved unanimously.**

Revising the score sheet to include logistical needs was discussed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**NOTICES**

Lemcool informed the Board that NMC would be hosting a Manufacturing Day on November 5<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 a.m. to noon. Korn volunteered to attend and distribute Northern Nexus marketing postcards.

Lile announced new equipment for Carter's Kids playground was installed at Grace Macdonald Park in East Bay Township.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 2:12 p.m.

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Chuck Korn, Chair