**ANAMOOSE JDA MEETING MINUTES**

**11-28-17**

President Frank Ewert called the Anamoose JDA Board special meeting to order this 28th Day of November, 2017 at 10:50 am. Members Mike Rudnick, Kevin Reinowski, Mike Borgen and Ted Mertz were in attendance. Bill Goodwin was absent. Also present was Cheryl Linardon, City Auditor; Bonnie Helm, JDA Consultant and from the USDA, Dennis Rodin, Business & Cooperative Program Director and Denise Sundeen, Business & Cooperative Program Specialist.

Dennis Rodin & Denise Sundeen were at the meeting to discuss and answer any questions that the JDA Board had regarding the grant for the 1909 Steakhouse & Saloon. President Ewert advised Rodin & Sundeen that the Board had received 3 bids for the demolition phase of the work to be done and the bids were much higher then was estimated in the Budget/Scope of Work.

Several members voiced their concerns on what happens if the Steakhouse project cannot be completed with the grant amount the USDA awarded to the Anamoose JDA. Rodin said they have never had this situation happen, he suggested if it did, perhaps the JDA could apply for some other grants that could be available. Rodin did say that once the last of the grant money has been disbursed, there needs to be a completed Steakhouse & Saloon ready to open by September 30, 2018. Rodin also said that date doesn’t mean it has to be open by then, just ready to open.

Another topic of concern was what happens if the project is completed but the original people that were lined up to lease and run the Steakhouse, no longer wanted to and no one else could be found to open and run it. Rodin said worst case scenario if this did happen, the Anamoose JDA could sell the equipment and the building and property and would pay back the USDA. They do have a process in place to figure out what would have to be paid back. Rodin advised the JDA that the USDA is making an equity investment into the building and want to help make this project happen.

Mertz asked if Rodin could arrange for the State Engineer to come out and look at the building. Mertz thought that with more information to work with, such as if he (State Engineer) feels the demolition and construction can be completed with the amount of grant money the JDA is to receive from the USDA, it would be very helpful. Helm asked Rodin if the USDA would like the project to continue and get the demolition started now. Rodin said he would prefer at this time to hold off until he can get the State Engineer out to look it over and then they can give us his thoughts on the project. After a lot of discussion, it was decided that Rodin will contact the State Engineer to come out and have him look inside the building. Rodin will try to have the State Engineer out here before the next JDA meeting so that the JDA Board can make the decision if they would like to proceed with this project.

The last topic that was discussed was if it has to be a licensed contractor to do the demolition phase of the project. Rodin said he will discuss this with the State Engineer as well and will let us know.

The December Anamoose JDA meeting will be Thursday the 14th at 7:00 pm.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm. Rudnick/Reinowski. AIF

Frank Ewert, President

Cheryl Linardon/City Auditor