

CITY OF GERMANTOWN  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Minutes - April 4, 2024

5:30 pm

*The Economic Development Commission promotes vitality and economic stability ensuring our City remains a center for growth and innovation.*

1. Call to Order: Chairman Bo Adams called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum:  
Members Present: Chairman Bo Adams, Vice Mayor Mary Anne Gibson, Matt Monteath, Bruce Meisterman, Melissa Kimbrough, Brandon Toney, Jabin Newhouse, Dane Williams  
Members Absent: Michelle Johns, Mark Ruleman, Janie Day, Cliff Sulcer  
Staff Present: Cameron Ross, Economic and Community Development Director, Diane DeSanctis, Economic and Community Development Coordinator
3. Motion to approve March minutes - 1<sup>st</sup> Bruce Meisterman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Melissa Kimbrough, unanimously approved.
4. There were no citizens to be heard.
5. Guest Speaker: Ethan Constant, CTE (Career and Technical Education) Director, Germantown Municipal School District. Prior to introducing Ethan, Cameron shared that one of the legs of Economic Development is Workforce and Workforce Development. The continuum of educating kids to make sure that we have a fully educated and innovative workforce to draw from is critical. In 2014, the Germantown Municipal School District and the Economic Development Strategic Plan, in its first year, combined to develop a relationship concerning workforce development. Ethan provided an informative and in depth review of the College Career and Technical Education program at Germantown Municipal School Districts. Ethan shared that reaching students early helps to develop interest. Career days are started in elementary schools, and different programs available at the middle school levels. 8<sup>th</sup> graders are assembled at the high school with exposure to the curriculums available so they are educated before entering high school. Ethan added that any vocational school we may have known in the past is far different than what we have now. Ethan discussed the curriculums, internships and work based learning programs and provided CTE literature with various performance standard statistics. Ethan indicated that although our district schools beat the national averages in ACT scores, graduation, etc., the concentration is still on how can we be and do better.
6. Chairman's Reports (Old Business):  
Nothing to report.
7. New Business:  
The City's communication team will be asked to join us at the start of the the May work session meeting to discuss their vision for the spotlight series. The EDC members were asked to provide ideas to accomplish the action items goals ahead of the May work session meeting. A shared document will be prepared where all members can access and update. One to three (or more) methods or ideas on each topic requested by April 15<sup>th</sup>.
8. Adjournment:  
There being no further business, comments, or questions by the Commission, Chairman Adams adjourned the meeting at 6:39 p.m.

EDC Chairman Bo Adams

