

**Notes from EDA Director Cathy Enerson:** The EDA board welcomes **Ryan Castle, of Bremer Bank** who replaces Doug McCabe, after Doug's departure from the bank. The board deeply misses **Shannon Reuss**, who recently passed away, and was a member of the EDA board for eight (8) years. Shannon brought enthusiasm to each board meeting and was diligent in her efforts on the board. She was a visionary, offering small business and international business experience. She cared about the environment and the local residents, putting Eyota's interest in front of her own. Shannon, as a previous nurse, cared deeply about the responsibilities the EDA board has to oversee Arbor Gardens Senior Living Center. As if hand picked by Shannon, her seat has been filled by her commercial neighbor. Welcome **Craig Horan of Prestige Auto**.

**MINNESOTA DESIGN TEAM  
TO VISIT EYOTA**

**APRIL 14-16 2016**



Eyota, Minnesota is "the only city named Eyota in the entire United States", states the Minnesota Design Team (MDT)! Eyota evolved as a train town along the Winona and St. Peter Railroad, and now there is tremendous growth projected for Eyota. That growth is sparked by quality education and community members that call Eyota their home. Continued growth is spurred by local strategic planning at the City level, and the projected City of Rochester and Olmsted County projects. Eyota has funding available for City projects and has very motivated leadership who sees the value in bringing the community together in a coordinated effort to chart their future long range plan. **That is what you, as a community member of Eyota, can take part in when you participate during the Minnesota Design Team (MDT) visit!**

Some specific challenges the MDT and the Eyota committee hope to tackle (and where we need MDT expertise) are:

- ◆ Main Street revitalization (design and economic development).
- ◆ How to better activate open space.
- ◆ How to best coordinate city owned land, and privately owned land in the development of a community/event center.
- ◆ Connecting local and regional bicycle networks.

Local leadership and committee membership are growing, Connie Meiners is the local committee chair. To sign up to volunteer for the Eyota, Minnesota Design Team visit go to City website under EDA.

You can also learn more at <http://www.aia-mn.org/get-involved/committees/minnesota-design-team/mdt-volunteers> The value of this visit is estimated to be in excess of \$200,000. Eyota feels honored to be chosen by the MDT. Housing, Food, Fun and Fellowship provide opportunities for you to volunteer either on the committee or for one item during the weekend visit.

**2016 Think.... New Housing Starts and  
New Construction Incentives**

In 2015 the City's dirt was moving in all directions. Vacant lots are now new homes, resulting in the growth of Eyota's population and tax base. There were eight (8) single family home permits taken out in 2015 of which four (4) were townhomes. Eyota had not seen the construction of new townhomes since 2003 due to land for townhomes falling into State forfeiture. The new construction starts are a milestone to be celebrated!

What's to come in 2016 is even more exciting. In the NW area of **Eyota fifteen (15) new single family home lots** will be developed. To reach the developer to discuss the timeline and pricing of the lots, call John Keefe at 507-932-4656.



To support the development of the fifteen (15) new lots, the joint city sewer board has agreed to waive SAC fees associated with residential new construction in 2016. The City of Eyota will also waive fees in the amount of \$4,850 for residential new home construction, and \$2,250.00 for commercial construction in 2016. That incentive will sunset at the end of 2016.

**Happy Holidays and Happy New Year  
from the EDA Board, Dale Heintz Chair,  
Connie Meiners Vice Chair,  
Cathy Enerson Director.**

**GET FAMILIAR WITH THE CITY WEB-SITE**

No need to call City Hall, many of your questions can be answered there!

[www.eyotagovoffice.com](http://www.eyotagovoffice.com)

- ⇒ New ~ Lost & Found Page
- ⇒ Fill out forms ahead of time: Pet license; Building Permits
- ⇒ Keep informed by viewing the Events calendar page
- ⇒ View the city newsletter whenever you want & in COLOR! Review older editions.

