



New American Job Fair, Oct. 20, 2016. Photo by Tristan Larson.



Monthly Newsletter November 2016

OCTOBER RENEWING MEMBERS

Erbert and Gerbert's
FM Extra Paper
Junkyard Brewery
Karlsson Law Office
Korsmo Funeral Service
Nereson's Big Lot
Park Christian School
MSUM

MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DAVID HUNSTAD

October was a busy month for the MBA. We held our second New American Job Fair and hosted candidate forums for city council elections as well as state senate and house candidates. As we transition into our fall membership drive, I thought it important to share just how proud I am to represent the business community in this great city. Business leaders in Moorhead continue to step up and work together to accomplish great things. As the director of the MBA, it is also my privilege to work on behalf of our businesses as we deal with important issues. We support long-term flood protection and believe that moving forward with the diversion is the best option. The MBA also supports a sales tax as the best way to fund a new jail and law enforcement center. I thank you all for your continued commitment to Moorhead.



“Let’s Talk Business” Highlights

MOORHEAD’S WATER SUPPLY: PROACTIVITY AND PROMOTION

On Oct. 5, Kris Knutson from Moorhead Public Service shared news about the city’s water. MPS recently withdrew from the Red River Valley Water Supply Project because of its high price tag, and because a better option for a long-term drought solution exists in the Buffalo Aquifer Sabin expansion project. MPS has made it a priority to proactively plan for drought events rather than be reactive. Dave Anderson also commented that Moorhead should do more to promote its high-quality water to relevant industries and businesses.

KEY MOORHEAD ISSUES

On Oct. 12, we had an open discussion about some of the issues we'd like to see go before city council candidates at this month's candidate forums. Some of the topics discussed: the sales tax intended to pay for the new correctional facility, the Moorhead Public Schools operating levy, the DNR diversion decision and frustration with the official response, the underpass, and downtown Moorhead development.



WARDS 2 & 4 CANDIDATE FORUM

On Oct. 19 our meeting was a candidate forum for Moorhead City Council Wards 2 & 4, with participants Heidi Durand, Jon Rowell, and Steve Gehrtz. Issues discussed were the MPS transfer agreement, decreasing the number of members to serve on the council, the impact of putting the local election on the same ballot as the national election, and the diversion and the DNR's rejection of the project plan.

WARD 3 CANDIDATE FORUM

On Oct. 26 our meeting was a candidate forum for Moorhead City Council Ward 3. Participants Dr. Matthew Kammerer and Joel Paulson discussed issues including the relationship between City Hall and businesses; how to build a better business climate in Moorhead, especially downtown; growth for growth’s sake; Moorhead’s role in the metro; and the diversion. Perhaps the biggest difference between the candidates was their view of the MN DNR’s diversion concerns, with Paulson calling them “ludicrous” and Kammerer calling them “correct,” though both believe the diversion is necessary.

UPCOMING EVENTS

“Let’s Talk Business” Speakers

Nov. 2: Candidate forum, Ward 1

Nov. 9: Election Recap and Discussion

Nov. 16: Mike Allmendinger, Kilbourne Group

Nov. 23: Sara Johnson, Concordia

Nov. 30: Susan Smith, Big Brothers Big Sisters

Frostival in January

The MBA has two ways for your business to get involved in the January 2017 Frostival: a snow sculpture contest (taking place Jan. 28) and a restaurant passport challenge (taking place Jan. 20-28). For more information, contact Gwen Hoberg or David Hunstad.

560 Connect Location

