RESOLUTION NO. 2023-23

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE SAPPHIRE LAKE DESTINATION IOWA GRANT APPLICATION

WHEREAS, Poweshiek County desires to use this resolution to express their support for the development of the Sapphire Lake development in Poweshiek County, Iowa; and

WHEREAS, Poweshiek County has been an active partner in the development of Sapphire Lake for 15 years working with City of Grinnell; and

WHEREAS, Poweshiek County and City of Grinnell recognize that this project will provide a wide array of public recreational opportunities, economic growth for the region, expanded housing options, much needed population growth, tourism, and enhanced water quality; and

WHEREAS, Poweshiek County and City of Grinnell strive to partner to advance the Sapphire Lake development for the mutual benefit of the City, County, region, and State of Iowa; and

WHEREAS, our partnership with McClure Engineering Company as the engineer and The ATI Group as the developer, and the possibility of funding from the Destination Iowa Grant project has revived this well-developed project; and

WHEREAS, the Sapphire Lake project is well designed having completed geotechnical analysis, archaeological reviews, environmental assessments, hydrogeologic analysis, market studies, Arm Corps of Engineers Lake permit application/approval; and

WHEREAS, the landowners impacted and involved in the Sapphire Lake development have previously provided land purchase options and have expressed willingness to consider this again; and

WHEREAS, Poweshiek County and City of Grinnell are willing to consider utilizing tax increment financing to the full extent allowed by law to advance the development of Sapphire Lake which will include necessary infrastructure investments; and

WHEREAS, the utilization of tax increment financing for the development of Sapphire Lake may also create a low-income housing assistance fund for the benefit of Poweshiek County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Poweshiek County, that Poweshiek County does hereby express their staunch support for the Destination Iowa Grant application for the development of Sapphire Lake.

Passed and adopted this 22 day of December 2022.

Diana Dawley, Chairman

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Melissa Eilander, Poweshiek County Auditor