

JUN 22 2009

*approval -
no changes C-2
6.10.2009
J*

Downtown Development Authority
Minutes
Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Call to Order: at 7:00 P.M. by Dick Pierson

Roll Call: Members Present: Plante, Nellis, Vanderbossche, Stabile, Pierson, Lietke, Wojciechowski, Gruca, Goldenbogen,

Not Present: Drompp, Longstaff.

Also Present: Judy Sproat, Director of Planning and Economic Development
Marc Levisse, Administrative Assistant to the Mayor
Susan Burkhardt, City Council (arrived 7:30 P.M.)

Approval of Minutes:

Corrections to the March 11th 2009 meeting: Rutledge arrived just after roll call. Longstaff was absent. MOTION by Goldenbogen, second by Gruca to approve the April minutes as corrected. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda:

MOTION by Stabile, second by Vanderbossche to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report: Bonnie Vanderbossche reported \$3.35 interest on the checking account. One cash disbursement of \$15,505.50 for 2qtr payments for the EDC for the DDA portion of Judy's salary. The ending checking account balance is \$34,512.07. We are supposed to keep that balance at around \$3,000. MOTION by Gruca second by Lietke to transfer all but \$3,000 into the time certificate. All in favor. Motion carried.

\$470.74 interest on the time deposit. The certificate is \$132,792.65 so total funds on deposit are \$167,304.72.

MOTION by Goldenbogen, second by Wojciechowski to accept the treasurer's report as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

Public Comments: There was no public present. Getting better attendance at the DDA meetings was discussed by the board.

Dorothy Stabile discussed that Stahl's has purchased the lot and the other little building that was Ciske's. There was graffiti on one of the walls and they are working on removing it. They have offered to give Mr. Maliskey a new roof if he will allow someone on his roof to remove the graffiti. They are waiting on a response. Judy Sproat explained water has damaged both buildings foundations. Mr. Stabile is proposing a gutter system attached to both buildings. Other proposals were discussed.

General Business:

A. Election of Officers:

Plante nominated Dick Pierson for Chairperson. There were no other nominations.

MOTION by Goldenbogen second by Plante to close the nominations for chairperson. All in favor. Motion carried.

MOTION by Goldenbogen, second by Wojciechowski to elect Dick Pierson Chairperson. All in favor. Motion carried.

Gruca nominated Mike Wojciechowski for Vice Chair. There were no other nominations.

MOTION by Goldenbogen, second by Lietke to close the nominations for vice chairperson. All in favor.
Motion carried.

MOTION by Goldenbogen, second by Gruca to elect Mike Wojciechowski Vice Chairperson. All in favor.
Motion carried.

B. MEDC Entitlement Grant Program Application Update:

Director of Planning and Economic Development Judy Sproat explained we were not selected to receive the grant. She will forward any information she receives about the decision.

C. DDA and TIF Plan Renewal Update:

Director of Planning and Economic Development Judy Sproat explained she and Marc Levisse attended the presentation by the University of Michigan students. She has copies of the full presentation available, and has sent a link to the full document to the DDA members. She distributed the timeline in the packet. An outline of the new DDA plan should be completed by July. She will be working with the Macomb County Planning and Economic Development Department to finalize the document.

D. Memo to City Council Regarding Flower Container Purchase:

Director of Planning and Economic Development Judy Sproat also discussed correspondence forwarded to the DDA regarding their intentions about the request to city council to use the savings on the flowers this year to purchase new pots. This request will be sent to council in the next packet if approved by the DDA. The horticultural department at the high school ordered additional flowers should anything need to be replaced.

MOTION by Gruca, second by Nellis to forward the letter to city council as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Update:

The mayor explained that today was mayor exchange day with the City of Utica. Although Mayor Jackie Noonan is a short lady, she is a mighty lady. They have 1.9 square miles. They have a population between five and six thousand people. They have just finished their downtown streetscape. Their DDA capture is about \$397,000 per year. Their downtown has been revitalized in the last eight or nine years. They own and operate a senior complex. They have City of Detroit water and sewer. They have a small city hall and police station. They have a larger fire department than New Baltimore.

The mayor explained that we did get the \$500,000 grant for resurfacing and updated the LDFA contribution is closer to \$497,000.

The city is resurfacing Hooker and also Council approved renaming Hooker to Huntley.

The sidewalk at Main and County Line is being redone.

The city is paving Highview after redesigning the road.

The clean up around town from the ground and the sewer project is beginning.

Our security cameras are being installed around the wastewater pump stations and water pump stations. We are also protecting our parks as well.

The hole in the street next to Hooker is finally being filled. They are now building the structure. The City still expects completion in November.

Our mayor exchange day is next Wednesday. Dinner is at Cedar Glenn at 6:00 P.M. They will be touring the city. John Dupray is our citizen of the year. TransNav is our business of the year. The city has received an economic improvement grant of \$500,000 to fix the road because of them.

We are going ahead with the micro resurfacing of Washington Street. The state has indicated the stimulus money has been delayed. The water line along Washington must be repaired before we resurface.

The city is in the middle of the budget process. We have received a 3.3% tax reduction last year, 5% this year and between 5 and 7% next year. Our revenue sharing numbers have been reduced about 4.5% and road monies have been reduced. The mayor is recommending concessions from union negotiations as well as the rest of the city employees. Council is reluctant to do any capital projects because of the current economic times. The five year forecast indicates we will be losing as much as \$500,000 in the general fund.

Our water plant is in place and ok through the forecast period. The wastewater plant will be losing money because of paying on 1 million dollars in bonds starting next year. We have reserves to withstand the loss.

The library expansion was approved. It is scheduled to be complete by next fall. Parking was discussed.

The Slippery Rock restaurant is under construction. Their goal is to be open by Bay Rama.

Burger King is two to three weeks away from getting permits.

Judy Sproat explained Plum Hollow is moving to the other side of the building where Ditto Consignment is located. Carlos and Liz Aprea have signed a lease for the vacated space and are going to open Blue Moon Soap Company. They hope to be open by the beginning of June.

Kret's Garage was part of the grant application which was denied. We will have to see what type of façade improvements they can make.

Art and Mary's building is for sale. The purchase price was discussed.

Member comments:

Judy Sproat asked about the crack filling process for roads.

Max Plante asked about the official opening of the beach. The mayor responded Memorial Day is when the lifeguards are on duty.

The mayor explained he has had complaints about the skateboarding people and how terrible they are to everybody. It has been forwarded to the Recreation Committee to review continuing the activity or not. Cameras at the park were discussed. The proposal was well intentioned at the time. Unsupervised activities are a problem.

Max Plante encouraged the DDA members to attend the Mayors Exchange Day Dinner, Wednesday, May 20th.

The conduit was located downtown. The mayor found documentation that the DDA did pay for it. We can run wire for lights in the trees and music. Allocating funds was discussed and will be added to the next meeting.

Mike Wojciechowski thanked the Mayor and City Council for appointing him to the DDA.

The mayor asked about the Blueprints committees update and asked if the committees have met. Judy Sproat responded she would provide a copy of the work plans. The only committee that has met is the design committee. A monthly update of the Blueprints committees will be added to the DDA agenda.

The architect for the park was discussed. The mayor explained Algonac had a plan drawn for about \$1,900.00. The mayor would like an RFP before June.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION to adjourn made by Goldenbogen, second by Stabile. All in favor. Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 10, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,
Annette Girodat

