

Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority
Minutes
Monday, September 28, 2015

The regular meeting of the Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority was held on Monday, September 28, 2015 in the Ray Leverton Room at the Carnegie Public Library. The meeting was called to order by David Aeh at 4:00 p.m.

Present: David Aeh, David Aro, Diane Gauthier, Sandy Arsenault, Judy Hodges, Jay Clancey, Anne Giroux, Claudia Demarest, and Mark Slown (9). Absent were Rosemarie Strom (1).

PUBLIC COMMENT – There was none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Arsenault, supported by Mrs. Demarest and carried unanimously to approve the August 24, 2015 minutes as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Jim Lampman reviewed the financial report for the period ending August 31, 2015 which included summarizing the revenues and expenses for the month. A motion was made by Mrs. Gauthier, supported by Mr. Clancey and carried unanimously to approve the financial reports as presented.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Linda Andriacchi illustrated the “labor saver liner” self-watering planter she would like to purchase for 2016. She felt this would help with the watering problems that occurred this year along with potentially less time involved in watering. The cost for the basket liners were approximately \$25 for the small and \$93 for the large.

After discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Gauthier, supported by Mrs. Demarest and carried unanimously to include the balance remaining of \$1,000 in the 2015 beautification budget in the 2016 beautification budget for a total of \$2,000 to purchase the planters.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPORT

Kori Tossava showed the summer teaser promos for the Discover the West End campaign. She explained this would be on TV and on the radio during the month of October and slideshows would be available on Instagram and on facebook. They would be publicly launching the campaign on Saturday with e-blast. She also reviewed her report and summarized the various Chamber events and meetings.

2016 BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Slown advised the Budget Committee met to prepare the draft budget. Mr. Lampman reviewed the proposed budget for 2016 which included administration, beautification, promotions, façade, and demolition. There was additional discussion related to the revenues and expenses associated with each budget.

A motion was made by Mrs. Giroux, supported by Mr. Aeh and carried unanimously to approve the 2016 proposed budget as presented by Mr. Lampman.

BLIGHT ELIMINATION GRANT

116 Canda Street Deed

Mr. Slown reported the corrected deed was enclosed from John Jilbert.

110 Canda Street

Mr. Aeh reported he had met with the Watts and they had sent their counter offer to the DDA. There was discussion related to the pros and cons of the potential purchase of 110 Canda Street. Mr. Aeh advised Bonnie Hoff, City Attorney, was preparing a purchase agreement to be presented back to the Watts. Mr. Aeh said he would meet with them again if necessary.

UPCOMING MSU EXTENSION PROGRAMS

ANNUAL MICHIGAN DOWNTOWN CONFERENCE

Mr. Slown advised if anyone wished to attend either of these programs to inform his office.

DDA PRIORITY SITES FOR REDEVELOPMENT – RRC

There was discussion related to the possible sites for redevelopment. All members would review the proposed sites and return their top 5 choices to Cathy Smith.

ISHPEMING BUSINESSES ASSOCIATION REPORT

Mr. Aeh reported the IBA was planning the Ladies Night Out event which was scheduled for November 17th. He also reported they had two generous sponsors for the Christmas activities: Gauthier Insurance and mBank.

OLD BUSINESS

Gateway Sign Project

Mr. Slown reported the west entrance sign was currently under construction and he was still working on a site for the east entrance sign. He met with the owner of OK Industrial and another meeting would be set up in the near future.

Thank you from the Rock and Mineral Club

The thank you from the Rock and Mineral Club was acknowledged. Mr. Aeh also advised a thank you was received from the Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame.

Mrs. Gauthier asked if a subcommittee could be established to develop general guidelines for color schemes in the downtown. The subcommittee would be David Aeh and Diane Gauthier.

NEW BUSINESS

David Aeh introduced Lisa Bowers, the new Ishpeming Mining Journal reporter to the DDA.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:15 p.m., a motion was made by Mrs. Demarest, supported by Mr. Slown and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Smith

Recording Secretary