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Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority

Minutes

Monday, April 25, 2016

The regular meeting of the Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority was held on Monday, April 25, 2016 in the Conference Room at City Hall. The meeting was called to order by David Aeh at 4:00 p.m.

Present: David Aeh, David Aro, Sandy Arsenault, Jay Clancey, Judy Hodges, Carrie Meyer, Anne Giroux, Diane Gauthier, Rosemarie Strom, Claudia Demarest and Mark Slown (11). Also present was Jim Lampman, Mayor Mike Tonkin, Council members Joe Juidici, Mike Tall, and Justin Koski, Matt Treado from UPEA, and Brian and Darlene Watts.

PUBLIC COMMENT – There was none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Gauthier, supported by Mrs. Demarest and carried unanimously to approve the March 28, 2016 minutes as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Lampman reviewed and summarized the financial report for the period ending March 31, 2016. A motion was made by Mrs. Demarest, supported by Mrs. Arsenault and carried unanimously to receive and file the financial report as presented.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Linda Andriacchi report most of the people that worked last year on the garden beds would continue this year. The Garden Tour would take place on June 26th in coordination with the Historical Society's House Tour and would end at Lake Bancroft with coffee and snacks.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPORT

Ashely Geist from the Chamber of Commerce reported they were in the process of looking for a new director as Kori Tossava took a position with UPAWS as their Capital Campaign Manager. She briefly reviewed membership, marking and community relations, and upcoming Chamber events.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Mrs. Demarest and supported by Mr. Aeh to go into closed session to consider materials exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute pursuant to MCL 15.268(h) at 4:15 p.m. Ayes: Members Aeh, Gauthier, Aro, Strom, Arsenault, Clancey, Hodges, Meyer, Giroux, Demarest, and Slown (11). Nays: None (0). Motion carried.

Returned to open session at 5:23 p.m.

BLIGHT ELIMINATION GRANT

(a) 116 Canda Street Update

Matt Treado, from UPEA, advised he would contact Associated Constructors to set up a time to remove the remaining materials from the walls of the adjoining structures and at the same time do an assessment of the adjacent structures.

SKI HALL OF FAME FUNDING REQUEST

The Ski Hall of Fame was requesting funding from the DDA of \$33,500 for improvement to their site and structure.

Mr. Lampman explained the DDA over the next 5 years would be in a deficit spending situation and be in a negative cash position by 2020 due to the debt. The DDA will have to be cautious on how the money is spent.

There was discussion related to the CUPPAD "Prosperous Places Grant" program and if this would be a good application to submit for grant dollars. Mr. Slown explained the grant could not be used for Christmas decorations as was suggested at a previous meeting, but the proposed project for the Ski Hall could be a good fit.

There was discussion about taking dollars from a previously budgeted item such as the gateway sign project.

A motion was made by Mrs. Demarest and supported by Mr. Clancey to not authorize funds to the Ski Hall of Fame at this time. Ayes: Members Aeh, Gauthier, Aro, Strom, Arsenault, Clancey, Hodges, Meyer, Giroux, and Demarest (10). Nays: Member Slown (1). Motion passed.

CUPPAD PROSPEROUS PLACES GRANT PROGRAM

After discussion of the Christmas decorations not being a good fit for the grant, a motion was made by Mr. Aeh, supported by Mrs. Strom and carried unanimously to recommend submittal by the City of the grant application for the Ski Hall of Fame project.

EAGLE MINE LAND DONATION

There was discussion regarding the land donation from Eagle and the deed received for the property; and, the grant received from Cliff's and Eagle. There were no restrictions on the deed for the property.

Mr. Slown advised he would like to get authorization to send the enclosed draft letter to Cliff's and Eagle. Mr. Aeh suggested information regarding the charrette and the MSU Sustainability grant be added to the letter and invite them to attend the charrette on May 17th.

ISHPEMING BUSINESS ASSOCIATION REPORT

Mr. Aeh reported the IBA in conjunction with the 4th of July Committee were working on becoming a 501(c) 3 organization.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Clancey felt the detour for the round-about should have been designed to bring people through the downtown.

(a) Update on MSU Sustainable Built Environment Grant

Mr. Slown reported there would be a charrette held at the Senior Center on May 17th at 7:00 p.m. to discuss conceptual plans for the Lake Bancroft Area.

(b) Update on Façade Improvement Grant Application Language Revisions – This was just a reminder.**(c) TIF District Boundary Amendment**

A motion was made by Mrs. Giroux, supported by Mrs. Gauthier and carried unanimously to approve the revised TIF district boundary pending approval by City Assessor, Jacki Lykins.

Mrs. Gauthier pointed out the Downtown Development Authority has done a lot over the last several years, but after the report from Mr. Lampman it is time for the DDA to start to cut back. The long term goals should be reviewed to determine what can be done in the future.

NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Smith

Recording Secretary