

## **Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority**

### **Minutes**

**Monday, June 27, 2016**

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The regular meeting of the Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority was held on Monday, June 27, 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, Claudia Demarest and Mark Slown (8). Absent: Anne Giroux, Diane Gauthier, and Rosemarie Strom (3). Also present was Jim Lampman, Mayor Mike Tonkin, Matt Treado from UPEA, David Thibeault, Brian and Darlene Watts, and Bob Tasson, owner of the Stampede.

PUBLIC COMMENT – There was none.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Arsenault, supported by Mr. Clancey and carried unanimously to approve the May 13<sup>th</sup> and May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016 minutes as presented.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Lampman reviewed the financial statements for the period ending June 20, 2016. He noted Promotions and the Façade Improvement line items had zero balances. There was discussion regarding the possibility of flags and hanging baskets being hung on the light poles on Cleveland Avenue.

A motion was made by Mr. Aeh, supported by Mrs. Demarest and carried unanimously to approve the financial report as presented.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE – There was no report.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPORT – Mr. Aeh noted the Chamber had provided a written report.

#### 110 CANDA STREET – WATTS PROPERTY

Mr. Treado explained the last issue for this project was the protection of the sill. He was working with Associated Constructors and the Building Code Department to ensure the proposed protection of the sill would satisfactorily meet all the code requirements and the project would then be finalized. He added Associated Constructors was responsible for the sill protection and he would ensure all work was completed. There was also discussion regarding the grading of the lot and the possibility of constructing a sidewalk on the vacant lot joining the Mather Inn to downtown.

#### RAINBOW BAR PROPERTY

##### (a) East Wall

##### (b) Purchase of Vacant Lot

Mr. Thibeault would like to acquire the property and move Buck's Subs next to the bar and also provide an outdoor seating area. He also questioned repairs to the east wall of his building. Mr. Treado explained Associated Constructors did provide an estimate of the work to repair the wall in the amount of \$3,500. Mr. Thibeault explained he was not opposed to constructing a sidewalk connecting the Mather Inn to downtown.

Mr. Slown suggested appointing a small committee of the DDA to enter into discussions with Mr. Thibeault regarding the acquisition of the property and repairs to the east wall. The Committee would consist of David Aro, Sandy Arsenault, and Claudia Demarest. The meeting would be set up after July 6<sup>th</sup>.

STAMPEDE FAÇADE GRANT PAYMENT

Bob Tasson, owner of the new Stampede store, explained they had some problems with the bank and the original contractor did not finish the job. He asked if a check could be cut directly to him for reimbursement for materials versus paid to the contractor as stated in the DDA Façade Grant guidelines. There was additional discussion regarding the pros and cons of revising the grant guidelines and if the DDA did pay the suppliers, would they be willing to reimburse the owner. It was questioned if receipts were received for all the materials purchased to do the restoration of the building, then could a one-time exception be granted by the DDA to make payment to the owner of Stampede versus the contractor; or, if the suppliers were willing to refund Stampede if payment was received from the DDA could the DDA pay the suppliers directly. It was suggested Mr. Tasson check with the suppliers if this would be possible.

A motion was made by Mrs. Demarest, supported by Mrs. Arsenault and carried unanimously to request Attorney Bonnie Hoff to review the Façade Grant guidelines regarding a possible payment to the owner versus the contractor.

BLIGHT ELIMINATION GRANT

A motion was made by Mrs. Demarest, supported by Mr. Aeh and carried unanimously to table this item until the next meeting.

ISHPEMING BUSINESS ASSOCIATION REPORT

Mr. Aeh reported the IBA was in the process of getting all the events organized for the Fourth of July and the summer concert series; new brochures were created and distributed to businesses; and there was no new information regarding the 501c(3) status.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Slown advised concern was raised over the weeds and long grass growing along the sidewalks and next to the buildings downtown; DPW would not be able to take care of this, it would be the property owner's responsibility. Discussion also took place regarding the garbage clean up after the parade.

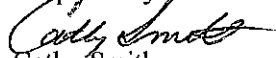
The DDA Budget Committee set July 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. to review and develop the 2017 proposed budget. Mr. Aeh and Mr. Aro would be on the Committee.

NEW BUSINESS - There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:10 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Slown, supported by Mrs. Demarest and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Cathy Smith

Recording Secretary