

Munising Downtown Development Authority
Minutes of Meeting
February 15, 2023
Fuzzy Boyak Welcome Center, 8am

Members Present: Dale Immel, Tom Hall, Pat Gariepy, Debbie Nedeau, Travis Cross, Rick Bowerman, Mike Nettleton

Members Absent: Cori Cearley (e), Angela Gerou (e)

Others Present: Kathy Reynolds, Pat Sanderson, Jaymie Depew, Devin Olson

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Dale Immel at 8:00 am.

Approval of Agenda: Pat made a motion to approve the agenda, Mike supported. **The motion passed.**

Public Comment: None

Approval of Meeting Minutes for January 18, 2023: Rick made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Tom supported. **The motion passed.**

Approval of Bills for Payment:

a. HTC	Phone land line	\$42.80
b. Kathy Reynolds	Cell phone data pkg.	\$60.00
c. Imperial Electric	2 streetlight repairs	\$235.00

Debbie made a motion to pay the bills as presented, Rick supported. **The motion passed.**

Budget:

a. January 2023 financials: At this time, the board will wait and make any needed budget adjustments in June. No action is needed or taken.

Old Business:

a. Renovare Development: Kathy, Devin and Dale have a meeting later this morning with Renovare. We still have not received any complete financials with regard to what they are wanting from the DDA. Since the two properties are not adjacent it appears the Transformational Brownfield will be more difficult than previously alluded to by Renovare. Devin said it looks like they are wanting two tax abatements, but their paperwork has been very rough so far. Neenah Paper is the only business that has received a tax abatement in the city and that was in 2008. Devin said there has never been a Transformational Brownfield in a rural community on two properties that are not adjacent awarded in Michigan.

b. DDA Bylaws: The board received a copy of bylaws Kathy put together. Devin stated that RRC requires bylaws and it's a good idea in general. Kathy said the DDA ordinance calls for the director to have a bond. Pat made a motion to approve the DDA bylaws as presented, Tom supported. **The motion passed.** Kathy will work with Dale to secure a bond for the director.

New Business:

a. Funding Request - GMBPCD for Pictured Rocks Days: Pictured Rocks Days will be held on June 10 and 11 this year. The GMBPCD is requesting funding of \$500 for the event. Kathy explained that the attendance estimate is based on Pictured Rocks Cruises numbers for the weekend, crowd size, etc. and is a guesstimate as the event is free and there is no gate. The request will be taken under advisement and a decision will be made at the next meeting.

Other Business: The board received a spreadsheet with upcoming funding requests for the 4th of July and what the DDA has awarded in the past few years. Sean Hayes will be attending the March meeting to request the funding and answer any questions.

Executive Director's Update: Kathy said one of the panels on the Military art installation in Bayshore Park is missing and will have to be replaced/repared in the spring. We have put out a call for new art submissions for Art in the Alley. Kathy has been attending lots of meetings for trail and outdoor rec with a group wanting to do a trail from Marquette to Munising. Kathy has also been attending grant committee meetings and ARPA meetings. Dale asked if it's possible for the GMBPCD, DDA and City to try to develop a working relationship with the county now that new county commissioners are on board. The board agreed it's a relationship that should be fostered.

City Manager's Report: Devin said they are working on updating and implementing rules and procedures. He hopes the Zoning Ordinance will be completed in March. They are working on a Capital Improvements Plan for 5 years, as required by the state. The boat launch is the only big project the city has planned for this year, and it will begin in May or June. He hopes to complete the RRC certification this fiscal year. MDOT has many items they need to address or fix this year regarding the M28 road project.

Round table discussion: Kathy said the Munising Rotary breakfast fundraiser was a success in raising funds for the school bands and Rick mentioned there was also an event at Gallery Coffee last night to raise funds. Travis discussed the County Commission and the relationship that needs to be encouraged with other entities.

Adjournment: Mike made a motion to adjourn at 8:52, Debbie supported. **The motion passed.**

Next meeting: March 15, 2023