



Downtown Development Authority

THOMAS TOWNSHIP - DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

8215 Shields Drive, Saginaw, MI 48609

Tuesday, November 24, 2015 - 8:00 a.m. Michigan Time

- 1. The Board Meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chairman Radewahn.
2. MEMBERS PRESENT: Radewahn, Emeott, Gray, Martin, Duclos, McCoy and Weise
ABSENT: Doyle, and Ryder-Petre
ALSO PRESENT: Russ Taylor, Township Manager, Dan Sika, Community Development Director, and Connie Watt, Planning Assistant/Code Enforcement Officer
3. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
4. Motion was made by Weise, supported by Martin to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA

THOMAS TOWNSHIP DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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Tuesday, November 24, 2015 - 8:00 a.m.

- 1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Consent Agenda
A. Approve the minutes of the September 22, 2015.
6. Approval of Expenditures
7. Communications-Petitions-Citizen Comments
It is requested that you state your name and address for the record.
8. Public Hearing - None.
9. Unfinished Business-None
10. New Business
A. 2016 Over The Road Banner Calendar
B. 2016 DDA Meeting Schedule
C. DDA Newsletter-October 2015 Edition
D. Financial Forecast
E. Possible Future DDA Project
11. Reports
A. Chairperson D. Board Members
B. Vice-Chairperson E. Staff
C. Secretary
12. Adjournment

5. Consent Agenda

A. Motion by Weise, supported by Martin to approve the minutes of September 22, 2015 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Approval of Expenditures – Motion by Gray, supported by Weise to approve the expenditures as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Communications-Petitions-Citizen Comments – None.

8. Public Hearing – None.

9. Unfinished Business-None

10. New Business

A.-2016 Over The Road Banner Calendar

Sika explained to the DDA that the 2016 Banner calendar was being presented to the members. Each year they are asked to approve the display of banners on the DDA Banner poles. There were no changes to the 2016 calendar. It showed the dates of display of the DDA Banners as well as the Township Banners. The Covenant Race Banner was also shown to be displayed in 2016 by their application. Motion was made by Weise, supported by McCoy to approve the 2016 Over The Road Banner calendar as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

B.-2016 DDA Meeting Schedule

Sika informed the DDA that the calendar as presented does not differ from recent years. The DDA meetings would be taking place every other month beginning with January on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 8:00 a.m. Radewahn questioned the members if at this time the calendar would be workable for everyone's schedule. McCoy mentioned she would not be able to attend the March meeting. Motion by Gray supported by Martin to approve the 2016 DDA Meeting schedule as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

C.-DDA Newsletter-October 2015 Edition

Sika explained to the members that the attached DDA Newsletter had been sent out in October 2015. Weise questioned who had received the newsletter. Watt informed him it had been sent to the businesses located in the business corridor. Radewahn asked if thought had ever been given to sending the newsletter to realtors to promote the corridor. Sika noted that the newsletter was available in the Township Office and was given to those who were interested in potentially having a business in the corridor. He said we certainly could look into getting it to local realtors. Radewahn asked for any comments regarding the newsletter from the members. There was none.

D-Financial Forecast

Taylor reviewed the DDA Financial Forecast noting that they are in the process of paying off the street light bond. Once this is complete they can see that the available fund balance will increase. With no questions from the DDA regarding the Financial Forecast, a motion was made by Martin and supported by Weise to accept the DDA Financial Forecast as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

E-Possible Future DDA Project

Taylor explained that previously the DDA had some discussion regarding removal of the overhead electrical lines and telephone poles along Gratiot Road. At that time it was determined that the cost was over what had been anticipated. In the beginning of this year thought was given to have the electrical lines overhead and poles removed from the North Side of Gratiot Road between Miller and River Roads. A meeting was held with Consumers and they came up with a plan to remove these lines in phases with a cost for each as noted on the map provided to the DDA members. Taylor stated that since the street lights were almost paid for this may be a project for consideration. He added that the attached Financial Forecast shows the modification over a number of years doing one phase at a time. Martin did mention the improvement that was seen in the pictures that had been presented to the DDA a few years back showing the lines removed. Gray stated that he was more concerned with the homes located along Gratiot Road in the business corridor that were not in great shape and definitely brought down the appearance. Duclos agreed noting that potential business owners may reconsider the area due to the blighted homes. Taylor mentioned that the Community Development Department had put together a book of information regarding these homes and the thought had been to possibly acquire these properties, demolished the blighted homes and resell the property to potential businesses. It was decided that this is something that the DDA felt warrants further discussion at a future meeting.

11. Reports

- A. Chairperson – None.
- B. Vice-Chairperson – None.
- C. Secretary – None.
- D. Board Member –None
- E. Staff – Weise told the members that there would most likely be a new Welcome Sign constructed in the spring at the Township property near Heritage Insurance. It was mentioned that the DDA would like to see the renditions of the sign and what is to be done. These will be presented at the January meeting. Gray mentioned that the Thomas Township Business Association will be holding the “Business After Hours” on December 9, 2015 at Martin Chevrolet. McCoy added that the annual TTBA Children’s Christmas Party will be held at the Public Safety Building on December 5, 2015.

12. It was moved by Weise, supported by Martin to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.

David Duclos, Secretary