

**CITY OF WALLED LAKE**  
**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2018**

The Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Ambrose, Blair, Fernandes, Lublin, Marshal, Wlodarczyk

**ABSENT:** Ackley, Allen, Atwell, Easter, Shuman

There being a quorum present, the meeting was declared in session.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Deputy Managing Director Pesta, Finance Director Barlass, Deputy Clerk Gross, Lt. Kolke, Council Member Costanzo, Council Member Owsinek, Council Member Robertson

**REQUESTS FOR AGENDA CHANGES:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**DDA 11-01-18 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 9, 2018 MEETING**

Motion by Lublin, supported by Blair: **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:** To approve the minutes from the October 9, 2018 meeting.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:** None

**1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Trailway Update

Managing Director Pesta said that City Council put a millage for the trailway on the November 6<sup>th</sup> ballot. Ms. Pesta said that 55% of the residents said no to the tax increase for the trail. She explained currently the plans for the grant still have not been submitted because the engineering firm Stanteck, whose services were donated, said they have met their scope of work and is not doing any more work for the grant submittal. Ms. Pesta explained that the trail manager is waiting to hear back from the donor, Mr. Levine to see if the engineering firm will finish the work required to submit for the grant. Ms. Pesta said looking forward the DDA needs to decide if they want to participate in funding the trail. Ms. Pesta explained the cost of the trail is rising, with still no submittal of the grant.

**2. NEW BUSINESS:** None

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:** None

**3. CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**4. WARRANT REPORT:** None

**DDA 11-02-18 MOVE TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE WARRANT FOR  
OCTOBER 2018:**

Motion by Lublin, supported by Fernandes: CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To receive and file the warrant for October 2018.

DDA Member Blair said he wanted to bring something up before they adjourn. He said that he is on the Internet and he has watched what is going on with the city. He mentioned he has been here for 45 years and in his 45 years here he has not been a political person at all, he said that is just not his job. Mr. Blair said he joined the DDA to direct and help. He said he has watched the last 60 -90 days and the stuff that is going on the Internet regarding the City of Walled Lake, the council members, the mayor, the city manager, and the DDA, is absolutely appalling. He said we as a group don't give an answer, nor should we. He said Casey Ambrose, Linda Ackley, and Dennis Whitt are all big targets. He said the thing that he thinks is there is a time where we need to protect the city. He said its not a matter of who has the biggest shoulders or biggest target on their back, but all this bad publicity is doing the city no good. Especially when we are talking about the road projects and the infrastructure. He said he personally believes the DDA need to hire somebody to defend the city in the right manor. He said the DDA needs someone that isn't part of city administration or any of the boards to do so. He said these things go unanswered and it's as much as saying the city doesn't care. He mentioned the Take Back Walled Lake Facebook page is putting nothing but misinformation out there and it's not good. He said the take back Walled Lake page is gaining momentum by the day. He said the DDA opined these awful rumors and misinformation being put out there.

DDA Member Marshal asked who is behind these phony accounts?

DDA Member Blair said Susan Helke, her crew, and he said I'll tell you who the other person is after the meeting.

DDA Member Wlodarczyk said the DDA needs someone to basically respond to the people providing misinformation.

DDA Member Fernandes said she attempted to respond to someone complaining about a road situation, but they didn't understand that it was a county road and there was nothing the city could further do in that situation. She said she was trying to educate them, and they just shut her out. She said we need to put out a good message because there are good things going on in the community and we don't talk about it. She suggested putting together a proposal of why the

DDA is doing this because the board talks about how we don't have any money and now we want to hire a DDA Director to come in and tell good stories about the city. She said the problem is the negative image all this misinformation is causing, it is keeping businesses from coming into the city.

DDA Chairman Ambrose said there was misinformation put out there recently in regards to the Gamma subdivision project. He said someone was spreading the rumor it was going to be an additional \$4,000.00 added to each home owners tax bill when there were no decisions made except to put the water lines in. He said we were putting the project out there for the residents to decide what they wanted to do in addition to the water line repairs, if anything at all. Mr. Ambrose said we don't need someone to respond to the misinformation, but we need someone to get the accurate information out there.

DDA Member Lublin said it shouldn't be an independent firm it should be directed within so that they have the accurate information. Mr. Lublin explained the DDA needs to be careful not to put fuel on the fire by responding to obvious misinformation.

**DDA 11-03-18            MOTION TO FORWARD TO COUNCIL FOR FURTHER  
DISCUSSION ON POSSIBLY HIRING A DDA DIRECTOR**

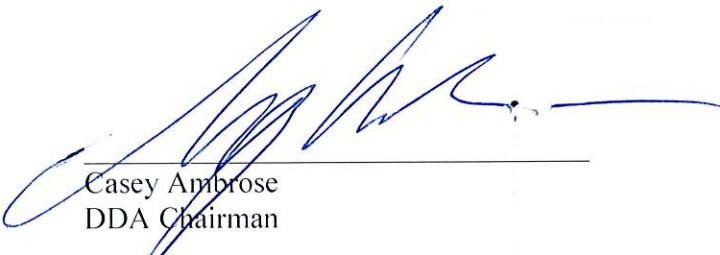
Motion by Lublin, seconded by Blair; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To forward to council for further discussion on possibly hiring a DDA director.

**5. ADJOURNMENT:**

**DDA 11-04-18            ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Wlodarczyk, seconded by Marshal; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To adjourn the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

  
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Miranda Gross  
Deputy Clerk

  
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Casey Ambrose  
DDA Chairman