



CITY OF WALLED LAKE
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

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

ROLL CALL: Ackley, Atwell, Ambrose, Blair, Fernandes, Lublin, Marshal, Shuman

ABSENT: Allen, Easter, Wlodarczyk

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Deputy Managing Director Pesta, Finance Director Barlass, Deputy Clerk Gross, Police Chief Shakinas, Lt. Kolke, Council Member Owsinek, Council Member Costanzo

REQUESTS FOR AGENDA CHANGES: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

DDA 09-01-18 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE JULY 10, 2018 MEETING

Motion by Blair, supported by Ackley: CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To approve the minutes from the July 10, 2018 meeting.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Council Member Gabriel Costanzo appeared before the DDA board stating he was speaking “not as a councilman but as a resident”. Council Member Costanzo said he made a presentation in May to honor the veterans of our society. Council Member Costanzo stated instead of re-inventing the wheel he took a program from Northville and this is something the city of Northville does. Council Member Costanzo requested the DDA board consider the program more in depth and stated the program doesn’t cost much but also that he had no idea of the exact cost. Council Member Costanzo handed to the DDA board a two-page brochure stating that the city would need to put up and take down banners, mentioning again that it doesn’t cost a lot, but he doesn’t actually know the cost.

Chairman Ambrose asked Council Member Costanzo to bring back the cost, as the DDA had requested the last time Council Member Costanzo appeared with a program proposal.

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

2. NEW BUSINESS: None

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:

Mr. Whitt said first I would like to draw attention to our newest recording clerk and that's Miranda Gross. Recently appointed as a Deputy Clerk, she will be doing most of our meetings as she can and will be backup. Mr. Whitt mentioned the city is restructuring. We are in the process of restructuring city hall and trying to tighten up the budget. We lost our finance director, but we gained a new one, our former treasurer. Our new treasurer is also the Assistant City Manager. Deputy City Clerk Gross served as a student intern for several years, attending college and is now attending a university. Mr. Whitt explained that Deputy Clerk Gross will be doing the minutes for several city boards, including the planning commission. Mr. Whitt opined the intern program has provided diversity in the city's staffing.

1. Discussion – Downtown Infrastructure Repair

Assistant City Manager Pesta said in July we discussed that we didn't qualified for the grant we submitted last year because we aren't considered a high pollutant area. Since then the consultant engineer and I have been going back and forth with the MDEQ to figure out what our next step is. Mrs. Pesta said we could reapply but that would cost us more money since we have to resubmit new information into the application. This also means we can't start fixing the infrastructure downtown for another two years. Not knowing if we would even qualify for the grant. They have been going back and forth, placing the city in different tiers. Tier one is where we want to be because it would mean we are most likely to be approved to move forward with the project. We keep getting bounced back and forth between tier two and three. Mrs. Pesta said in order to be considered for tier two, we would have to do additional work to our application and the deadline is October 12th. It's going to cost us about \$3000.00 for soil borings and we still have the boss engineering cost of \$5000.00. They are working very hard to stay at that cost for us to resubmit our application. Mrs. Pesta stated our only other option at this point, if we don't want to wait is to go ahead and start working on our storm sewer system and do a few beautifications down town. It wouldn't be the scope of work we talked about years ago, like putting the utility poles underground. It would just be fixing the issues we are having right now.

DDA Board Member Fernandes asked if we don't apply by October 12th, when is the next time we could apply?

Mrs. Pesta replied 2019.

Mr. Whitt said whether we get a grant or not we still have decisions to make. He believes it's prudent to spend the extra money to try and get the grant, but we also have to decide if we want to spend some DDA money to fix what is collapsing. Mr. Whitt said we can't wait several more years to see if we get the grant or not. We just want to report back to let you know we did not get the grant. Mr. Whitt stated it is competitive and there is a limited amount of money.

DDA Board Member Lublin asked Mrs. Pesta what the total amount of the grant was and what were we going to use it for.

Mrs. Pesta replied with it was a million-dollar grant. We would be using it for Permeable concrete on the parking spaces, redesign of the downtown infrastructure, and move the DTE poles underground.

DDA Board Member Fernandes asked if Mrs. Pesta has contacted senator Kowall office and get him involved. He can make some phone calls to the DEQ and that could help a lot.

Mrs. Pesta said she has only been working with the DEQ. We also need to match more than last year, we had a 25% match requirement and in order to be more of a priority they want a 40% match if we resubmit our application.

Mr. Whitt said we will bring you back more information but right now we need to resubmit and be ready to fix what can't wait.

Mrs. Pesta mentioned two grants we recently received for infrastructure repairs. One was over on Arvida St. and another in Chestnut hills.

**DDA 09-02-18 MOTION TO APPROVE ALL NECESSARY WORK TO BE DONE
TO RE SUBMIT FOR THE GRANT FOR THE DOWNTOWN
INFASTRUCTURE REPAIRS BY OCTOBER 12TH.**

Motion by Lublin, supported by Shuman: CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To approve all necessary work to be done to re submit for the grant for the downtown infrastructure repairs by October 12th.

2. Update – 1215 Decker Road Proposal

Assistant City Manager Pesta said this went before the planning commission in March. The property owners want to do outdoor storage next to Dover Hill, the vacant property zoned limited industrial. Mrs. Pesta has also been working with a realtor and someone is looking at purchasing that property and propose putting in a landscape company. They haven't submitted anything, they have been talking to me for a couple weeks now about purchasing the property and putting it to use. Mrs. Pesta mentioned she has spoken with the condo associations over there and they are more in favor of a landscaping company rather than outdoor storage. Mrs. Pesta also mentioned they are very big on screening.

Mr. Whitt stated the landscaping company is a little less invasive then some of the other stuff they wanted to do over there.

City Manager Whitt gave an update on the Community Ed. He said it looks like that could come down whenever they decide. Some of you may get word of it before we do but they have all their permits. Mr. Whitt stated it could come down at any time.

3. CORRESPONDENCE: None

4. WARRANT REPORT: None

DDA 09-03-18 MOTION TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE WARRANT FOR JULY AND AUGUST 2018:

Motion by Lublin, supported by Ackley: CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To receive and file the warrant for July and August 2018.

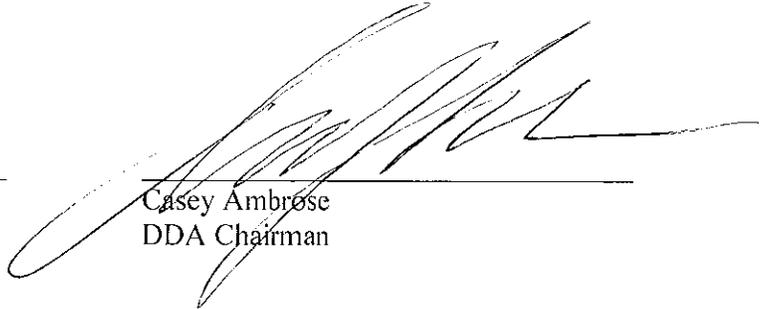
5. ADJOURNMENT:

DDA 09-04-18 ADJOURNMENT

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



Miranda Gross
Deputy Clerk



Casey Ambrose
DDA Chairman