

MELROSE TOWNSHIP DDA MINUTES
Regular Meeting of October 30, 2013
At Melrose Township Hall

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chair Broc Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.

Members present: Broc Johnson, Vern Goodwin, Bob Vratana Arnold Hudson, Mike Strobel, Dave Rentschler, and Calvin Penfold.

Members absent: Lou Mettler, Judy Goldsmith, and Dan Sebold

Staff present: Recording Secretary Tom Mackie

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mike Strobel motioned, Bob Vratana seconded, to approve the minutes of June 5, 2013 as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

III. FINANCIAL REPORT:

Tom Mackie reviewed the statement of Revenues and Expenses compared to budget. The current cash balance is \$76,876.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Future Project Discussion: Broc asked for suggestions but none was offered.

B. Village Development: Jonathon Borisch reviewed his plans for development from the Township Park to the Boat Launch Parking lot. He noted the need to complete curb, gutter, and sidewalks at a cost estimated by Performance Engineering of \$300,000 to \$400,000. This discussion was previously tabled due to uncertainties with the water system, but it now appears a new system will not be installed. Jonathon estimated repair and upgrade cost to the existing system at \$400,000 and asked if the DDA would be interested in pursuing this as a 2014 project.

Broc asked if any other issues came up in the recent meeting with MDOT, noting we once had an estimate of \$60,000 for curb and sidewalk installation only in front of the Rentschler building. Jonathon stated this could be in the range of \$300,000 to \$500,000 with storm-sewer work. Vern noted MDOT will require storm sewer improvements and indicated the cost could be as much as \$750,000.

Jonathon suggested funding may be available through Northern Lakes Economic Alliance but Vern believes MDOT is no longer funding this. MDOT may consider funding improvements in the travelled portion, but currently there are no plans for work on M-75 in the next 10 years other than patching.

Broc suggested we could investigate any potential funding and Jonathon stated he would pursue this if the DDA is interested in cost-sharing. Calvin questioned if the

Approved

DDA could afford a project of this magnitude and Broc expressed concern the ultimate cost could greatly exceed \$400,000. Vern suggested a 1/3 cost sharing agreement might mean pursuing a \$250,000 loan. Annual loan payments of \$40,000 would still leave \$25,000 in our annual budget for other projects. The general consensus was to support this project through cost-sharing, subject to final details and hard numbers. Vern will consult with the Township Attorney concerning the legality of a loan to the DDA from Jonathon.

C. Storm-Sewer Repair Bill: Vern read a letter from MDOT notifying us we would be responsible for a \$10,900 repair bill. We discussed the history and subsequent repair to the storm sewer and will see if the Township's insurance may cover this expense.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Trail System Update: Broc has walked the property several times and it's currently under water. He also noted the Hopcraft property south of the park may go into conservancy, in which case it could be used to access Township property south of the river.

B. Utility Line Update: Broc provided copies of an email from Paul Repasky encouraging Charter Communications to complete their portion of the project.

C. Sidewalks: Wade-Trim provided a cost estimate of \$38,764 for a sidewalk from the boat launch parking lot to the church. The consensus was to consider putting this out for bid in the spring. **Dave Rentschler motioned, second by Mike Strobel, to authorize Wade Trim to pursue engineering work on this project. All ayes.**

D. Sign at Junction: Harvey Schach has donated a 17 meter sailboat which Triton Marine will repair for use as a sign. Mike's estimated total cost is \$11,000.

E. Park Lighting: Commercial-grade solar doesn't seem to be available. General interest was expressed to research the cost for hard-wired lighting.

VI. DDA MEMBER COMMENTS: None

VII. CITIZEN COMMENTS: None.

VIII. NEXT MEETING: To be scheduled when more info becomes available.

IX. ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM.

Prepared by:

Approved by:

Tom Mackie, Recording Secretary

Judy Goldsmith, Secretary