

MELROSE TOWNSHIP DDA MINUTES
Regular Meeting of April 11, 2016
At Melrose Township Hall

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chair Broc Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Members present: Broc Johnson, Vern Goodwin, Bob Vratana, Judy Goldsmith, Calvin Penfold, Steve Whittaker, Jonathon Borisch, and Mike Strobel.

Members absent: Dave Rentschler.

Staff present: Recording Secretary Tom Mackie

II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Calvin Penfold motioned to retain the same officers for another year, seconded by Mike Strobel. All ayes, motion carried.

Chair: Broc Johnson
Vice Chair: Bob Vratana
Secretary: Judy Goldsmith

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Bob Vratana motioned, Calvin Penfold seconded, to approve the minutes of October 29, 2015 as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT:

Tom Mackie reviewed the financial statements and 2016 / 2017 budget. The current cash balance is \$118,306.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Streetscape Development and Funding: We reviewed the proposed resolution requesting the Township authorize issuance of bonds to finance the streetscape project. The payment schedule represents less than 50% of our projected revenue over the life of the debt obligation. Vern noted the project budget of \$550,000 includes the cost for bond issuance as well as contingencies, and a required upgrade to the streetlights will use a portion of this contingency.

Jonathon expressed concern this work will take place during the summer busy season. Vern indicated the schedule calls for the curb-to-curb road work portion to begin by the first of June and be completed within six weeks. The streetscape portion would not start until fall.

Bob asked if any water, sewer, or other infrastructure improvements could become an issue after the road work is complete. Vern responded that MDOT would not allow this after the new road is finished.

Approved

With no further discussion offered, the members unanimously approved the resolution recommending the Township authorize the issuance of bonds to support the streetscape portion of this project.

B. Sailboat Sign: Mike reported the stanchions will be manufactured this week, and he hopes to install them next week. He also suggested we consider installing a bench for seating at the same time, but we would need to first review setback requirements within the easement.

C. Farmer's Market / Special Events Sponsorship: Broc asked for any additional ideas for special events we may want to consider. Jonathon noted he is already pursuing ski shows, a church concert, movies in the park, weddings, a "Woodies" boat parade, and a Hemingway event. Calvin expressed support for movies in the park, suggesting the DDA could support this event.

Vern suggested we also concentrate on promoting the DDA itself, once the streetscape project is complete. He noted this is part of the DDA plan and we should get started on this.

VI. NEW BUSINESS - FUTURE PROJECT DISCUSSION:

Broc proposed we reconsider something for the US131 / M-75 intersection. Steve has discussed this with (property owner) Larry Mathews but he is not currently interested. Steve then suggested contacting the current owner of the skating rink and old Junction Inn.

VII. DDA MEMBER COMMENTS: None.

VIII. CITIZEN COMMENTS: None.

IX. NEXT MEETING: Will plan to schedule a meeting in June.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 PM.

Prepared by:

Approved by:

Tom Mackie, Recording Secretary

Judy Goldsmith, Secretary