

MELROSE TOWNSHIP DDA MINUTES
Regular Meeting of October 25, 2016
At Melrose Township Hall

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chair Broc Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

Members present: Broc Johnson, Vern Goodwin, Bob Vratana, Judy Goldsmith, Dave Rentschler, and Mike Strobel.

Members absent: Steve Whittaker, Calvin Penfold and Jonathon Borisch.

Also present: Walloon Holdings Facility Manager Dean Hicks and Recording Secretary Tom Mackie

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Vern Goodwin motioned, Dave Rentschler seconded, to approve the minutes of June 7, 2016 as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

III. FINANCIAL REPORT:

Tom Mackie reviewed the financial statements. The cash balance at Oct. 15th is \$339,128.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Streetscape Development Update: Vern noted the latest completion date for phase 2 is November 1st, although the contractor is a little behind schedule. Sidewalks and pavers are complete, while street light installation is taking place now. Placement of sod and line striping is yet to be started. Bob asked if work on the privately-owned water system is finished. Vern responded the project should be complete, although it hasn't been inspected so some rework may be necessary.

B. Sailboat Sign: Broc reported the sign lettering and landscaping is now finished so this project is considered complete.

C. DDA Sponsorship of Farmer's Market / Special Events: Broc indicated this agenda item will be considered under New Business.

D. Maps / Brochures: Broc reported the discovery maps and brochures were distributed to several area chambers of commerce and rental companies. Further distribution to MDOT for placement in their facilities will take place next year. We have 12 to 15 hundred left if anyone has more ideas. At an additional cost to the DDA a service will provide them to area hotels.

VI. NEW BUSINESS - FUTURE PROJECT DISCUSSION:

A. MDOT Curb and Gutter Extension at Park and Beach: Initial plans for M-75 road work through the village called for replacement of existing guard-rails in this area with a

split-rail fence. Township consensus is this would not be a good idea for many reasons; however, the problem with vehicle parking in the summer months indicates some action should be taken. The DDA is investigating the extension of curb and gutter at a cost of \$50,000. We're pursuing a cost-sharing arrangement, but MDOT will not commit on the project until next spring. Vern suggested this cost estimate is too low, and recommended doubling it if we were to include this in next year's budget. Vern also indicated he would like to see this happen to help reduce vehicle speed through the village. Broc asked everyone to think about this proposal before the budget is prepared next March.

B. US131 Speed Study: Broc provided an emailed report from MDOT detailing the results of an October 11th speed study on US131, south of the M-75 intersection. The posted and average speeds on this date were 55 mph. The 85th percentile is about 60. Broc noted he would still like to see the speed limit reduced to 45 mph beginning near the Bear River and extending north through the intersection. Vern suggested the traffic study be repeated next spring, a time when both volume and speed are traditionally higher. He expressed doubt that MDOT would reduce the posted speed limit given this recent study.

C. Dean Hicks - Christmas Decorations and Lighting: Dean presented a proposal for DDA funding of holiday lighting. Dave Firman would add lighting and garland to our 19 new streetlights at a cost of \$1,497.66. This proposal would include installation, removal at season end, and off-season storage. Broc noted holiday decorations are already included in the DDA plan as an on-going expense. The additional lighting would be in place from Thanksgiving through (approximately) March 1st. **Dave Rentschler motioned, 2nd by Bob Vratana, to accept Dave Firman's holiday lighting quote of \$1,497.66. All ayes, motion carried.**

Dean also noted our new streetlights will also accommodate banners for future advertising opportunities.

VII. DDA MEMBER COMMENTS:

Judy noted the new expanded basketball court in the park is being used regularly. Broc reported the village of Walloon was recently featured in Traverse Magazine, and passed around a copy for everyone to see.

VIII. CITIZEN COMMENTS: None.

IX. NEXT MEETING: Our next meeting will include annual election of officers and budget recommendations. Broc will contact members in February to determine the date.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Prepared by:

Approved by:

Tom Mackie, Recording Secretary

Judy Goldsmith, Secretary