

MELROSE TOWNSHIP DDA MINUTES
Regular Meeting of October 27, 2021
At Melrose Township Hall

INFORMATIONAL MEETING:

Broc opened the Informational portion of the meeting, noting the meeting notice was provided to all taxing jurisdictions as well as the township's web site and bulletin board in accordance with Public Act 57 of 2018. No representatives of the various taxing jurisdictions were in attendance. Broc noted the presentation normally provided during the informational portion of this meeting will be addressed under various agenda items. This information is also available on the DDA page of the township's web site. No public comment was offered so Broc closed the informational portion of the meeting at 7:04 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chair Broc Johnson called the regular meeting to order at 7:04 PM and welcomed new member Bill Wehrenberg.

Members present: Broc Johnson, Vern Goodwin, Steve Whittaker, Phil Whittaker, and Bill Wehrenberg.

Members absent: Judy Goldsmith, Dave Rentschler, Mike Strobel, and Jonathon Borisch.

Vern noted Judy Goldsmith has informed him she will be resigning as a DDA Member.

Also present: Recording Secretary Tom Mackie

Others present

Connie Schach and Nathan Bean (Hotel Walloon Resort General Manager) were in attendance as audience members.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Phil Whittaker motioned, Steve Whittaker seconded, to approve the minutes of August 25, 2021, as corrected (prior meeting minutes date of August 25 should be June 23). All ayes, motion carried.

III. FINANCIAL REPORT:

Tom reviewed the financial statements as presented in an income statement and balance sheet.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. Township Purchase of Circle Park: Vern reported no new information is available from the state, although at least 180 applications for grant funding have been submitted.

- b. **Park Bathhouse Project Update:** Broc reported this project is now complete at an actual cost of \$31,147. Our budget was \$40,000.
- c. **Merchants Association Update:** Phil has contacted a few members but no new progress has been made.
- d. **Walkable Museum Signs:** Project is almost complete at less than budget, with remaining sign to be installed next week. Broc reported multiple favorable comments.
- e. **Bylaw Update for Amendment to PA 57:** In 2018 the State of Michigan amended the DDA Act to specify only a majority of members must have an interest in the district. At the August 25th DDA meeting we agreed to have Township Attorney Brian Graham incorporate this in the Bylaws. Vern reported Brian is re-writing section II and expects to have proposed language next week.
- f. **Sidewalk Extension Project:** Vern reported Aaron Nordman is working on Sidewalk/Boardwalk estimates. The sidewalk portion is expected to cost \$65 to \$70 thousand dollars but may be more by next spring. Broc and Vern are in discussion are in discussion with Aaron regarding the boardwalk ... more to follow.

V. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. **Future Development Plans:** Broc indicated that Jonathon has provided no recent information on development efforts in the village.
- b. **River/Boardwalk Path Discussion:** Broc noted this agenda item was added as a potential project for 2022. The Bear River is washing away our existing walk so a more permanent solution is needed. Fishing platforms could also be included in any plan. No cost estimates are available yet although a County Park Grant or cost sharing formula with the township may be possible. Phil and Steve both expressed support.
- c. **2022 Financial Budget Discussion:** The members reviewed current financial reports, cash projections, and proposals for future expenditures. Specific discussion included:
 - Nathan Bean proposed the DDA spend \$2,560 for new generic banners in the village. These would replace existing deteriorating banners and would be village centric and include no business names. **Phil motioned to include the purchase of 49 generic banners with no logos or business identification to next year's budget at \$2,560. Seconded by Broc. All ayes, motion approved.**
 - Broc reported Dean Hicks has requested a budget of \$1,960 for installation, removal, and storage of holiday lighting and garland. **Motion offered by Broc and seconded by Vern. All ayes, motion approved.**

Other expenditure proposals offered without a motion and vote are detailed in the attached **2022/2023 DDA Budget Proposal.**

VI. **DDA MEMBER COMMENTS:** None

VII. **CITIZEN COMMENTS:** None

VIII. **NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 at 7:00 PM

IX. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 PM.

Prepared by:

Approved by:

Tom Mackie, Recording Secretary

Broc Johnson, Chair