

**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
LAWRENCE VILLAGE HALL
May 24, 2017**

Present: Roy Cogar, Mary Webster, Donna Taylor, Kim Thompson, Don Hanson, Steve Petersen, Dale Gribler

Absent: Dave Quick, Gary Barton

Also: Dan Faulkner

Motion by Hanson, Support by Taylor to approve the Minutes from April 26, 2017 as presented. All aye. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report: Mary Webster presented the checking account balances from the bank statements.

DDA	\$36,583.72
Farmer's Market	\$ 729.00

Motion by Hanson, Support by Webster to accept the report. All aye. Motion carried.

Expenses: Jan Peterson presented a request for reimbursement of \$150 for the MIFMA membership approved at the April meeting.

Thompson provided more information regarding the discrepancies in the Tax Capture for both the DDA and LDFA. She is working with the County and Township treasurers to resolve. Mary Webster will provide the TIFA plan for the DDA to Kim or make it available to the Village to publish to their website.

Farmer's Market Report: Presented by Steve Petersen. Provided the budget for 2017.

The Streetscape Report:

Discussed the sidewalk and light poles installed on the east side of the future Freedom Bar & Grill. The inspection of the building resulted in a finding that the sidewalk/curb near the handicap ramp is too high and requires a barrier of some sort to prevent people from falling off curb. Don will talk to Doug Thomsen to see if he can provide a drawing of what will be installed. Motion by Gribler, Support by Thompson to approve up to \$500 to obtain a drawing of the barrier to submit to the State of Michigan for the permit. All aye. Motion carried.

The lighting fixtures for the poles have been received and will be installed.

East St Joseph street (in front of the former DeHaven and Red Arrow Bar) will be prepped for light fixtures with Doug Thompsen preparing the drawings.

Six more light fixtures will be needed...3 on the East side of the Freedom Bar and Grill and 3 south of the driveway. Motion by Webster, Support by Taylor to purchase additional fixtures at a cost of \$1,158/ea for a total cost of \$9,948. All aye. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Red Arrow Bar – The state conducted an environmental study of the building but had to stop after 75% completion due to unsafe conditions. The VBCo now has a timeline to shore up the building so the survey can be completed. An "unsafe structure" notice was provided to former owner, Helen VanLoon, in September 2014. An offer to purchase the building was made to VBCo. The Property Maintenance Code 108.1 of the State of Michigan was discussed as well as possible enforcement of Village ordinances.

DDA Advertising Signs near Highway – there are openings available as well as expired signs that need to be removed. Sign costs are \$150 for big signs or \$75 for the small signs.

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New Business:

The Ox Roast Committee is trying to coordinate fireworks for Sunday night, September 3. Coordinators of the even wanted to know if the DDA would help sponsor the cost as part of the advertising budget. Gribler requested that a more formal plan be presented before approval would be considered. Other members agreed.

Motion by Webster, 2nd by Petersen to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. All aye. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim J Thompson
Secretary