

**RECORD OF
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY/GRAYLING MAIN STREET
PROCEEDINGS REGULAR MEETING HELD ON THE
11th DAY OF APRIL 2024
1020 CITY BOULEVARD, GRAYLING, MICHIGAN**

I. Meeting called to order by LaFontaine at 8:35 A.M.

II. Roll Call

Members Present: Thompson, Huber, LaFontaine, Podjaske, Millikin, Wheeler
Members Absent: Swander, Pettyjohn (via phone)
Also in attendance: Lori McGeorge (City Clerk), Emily Causley (GRCOC)

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Approval of Agenda

24-009

Moved by Podjaske, seconded by Millikin to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0, Absent: 2, Vacancies: 1.

Motion Carried.

V. Draft Development & TIF Plan

A. Mara to answer questions (conditional approval sends draft to City Council)

Mara was there via video and went through the draft plan. She also elaborated on the steps involved with the plan and TIF. She has created a grant database along with Podcase options for grants and the goals therein. Revenue would begin with the 2025 Summer tax bills. Her and Podjaske reiterated the importance of reviewing the draft so that changes/additions could be done if needed. All deadlines for changes, posting and publications were also discussed.

VI. Approval of Consent Agenda

A. DDA/GMS Regular Meeting Minutes for Thursday, March 14th, 2024

Tabled until next month.

VII. Treasurer Report

Podjaske explained that the budget was currently being worked on.

VIII. City Manager Report

Podjaske updated the board about the prior month's activities including the BS&A program integration, Sawmill Lofts project and grants.

IX. Unfinished Business – DDA

A. State of Properties – Downtown Project Updates

The Fly Shop sold. Podjaske indicated that he is still interested in paid parking downtown.

B. Board member “office hours” responsibility – April through May

Pettyjohn will take care of April and LaFontaine will take care of May.

C. Quarterly Business Meetings – Establish Schedule

The first meeting occurred in February. The other 3 meetings will occur in May, August and November on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 6pm in Council Chambers.

D. Resuming/reworking work session schedule: establish next work session date

The work sessions will take place on the 4th Tuesday every month at 5:30pm. The location is to be determined.

X. New Business – DDA

A. Open board seat

Stonehouse has resigned; therefore, there is one open board seat. The opening will be posted on social media.

B. Road Closure: NYE

Millikin had suggested a road closure for the 100 block. There will be a black-tie event at the Artisan Village, the Sheriff's Department will be providing Dial A Ride. A multiuse permit needs to be completed.

XI. MS Committee Report

A. Org Committee

Millikin & Natasha are heading up this committee. This committee is currently working on the NYE Party with more information to follow at the next meeting.

B. Design

Pettyjohn & Thompson are heading up this committee. The crosswalks need to be painted. There is a DTE tree grant that could also be applied for.

C. EV Committee

Podjaske and Swander are heading up this committee. This committee has been working on the TIF plan and the MDOT grant for better walkability and/or biking.

D. Promotions Committee

Pettyjohn, LaFontaine, Huber and Wheeler are heading up this committee. Huber inquired about food vendors needing/using electricity for the block parties. City Council will need to vote to approve the waiving of all fees.

XII. Community Meetings Update

A.) CCEDP (Crawford County Economic Development Program)

Podjaske indicated that there may be a potential new development.

B.) Historical Museum

Closed for the season. Gail would like to use the city parking lot for a function.

C.) GPA

Emily explained that GPA was working on their budget.

D.) Rotary

Huber and Katie are trying to get sponsors for the Black Bear Bike Race. Fundraising will be needed.

E.) Chamber of Commerce

Emily explained that the Business Expo is coming up. There have been lots of applications for the river festival and sponsorships are needed for reimbursements.

F.) Camp Grayling

Pettyjohn spoke about the upcoming Kentucky Derby event at Camp Grayling. They are in need of silent auction items as well as trying to sell more tickets.

XIII. Public Comment

Millikin indicated that contestant interviews for the Miss AuSable River Festival will take place on July 17th from 5-7 pm.

XIV. Member Comments

Millikin and Huber spoke about activities posting on social media. Gaye Pizzi had reached out to Millikin inquiring if the DDA updates the Pure Michigan website; however, it appears that this is done by 9 & 10 News on MyNorth.com.

XV. Correspondence

A. E Free Church Community Outreach (re: block party)

They would like to help out with the block party.

XVI. Adjournment

24-010

Moved by Podjaske, seconded by Millikin to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0, Absent: 2, Vacancies: 1.

Motion Carried.

LaFontaine adjourned the meeting at 10:22 A.M.