

**Charter Township of Union  
Economic Development Authority Board (EDA)  
Regular Board Meeting  
Tuesday, May 19, 2015**

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chairman Kequom called to order the EDA Board Meeting at 5:22 pm.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Perry, Alwood, Kequom, Elmore, Zalud, Hunter

Excused: Chowdhary, Smith, Johnson

Absent: Hilliard, Bacon

Others Present: Brian Smith, Twp Manager; Margie Henry, Twp Clerk; Schofield, Bldg Dept Clerk; Chris Rowley, Executive Director, Mt. Pleasant Area Convention and Visitors Bureau; Pat Gaffney, Engineer, Isabella Road Commission; Doug Schultz, Landscape Architect of Rowe Professional Services and Tim Sprague, General Manager, University Motor Mall

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION by **Elmore** SUPPORTED by **Alwood** to approve minutes from April 21, 2015 meeting as presented. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION by **Alwood** SUPPORTED by **Perry** to approve the agenda with a correction to the spelling of Mr. Gaffney's name. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

East D.D.A. District Checks #248 – **3827-3832**

West D.D.A. District Checks #250 – **None**

West D.D.A. District Checks #396 (G.O) - **None**

West D.D.A. District Checks #398 (S.A) - **None**

Mr. Smith reviewed the accounts payable, noting the \$4,500 to Art Reach for the banners, a decrease from the previous sponsorship of \$7,000.

MOTION by **Zalud** with SUPPORT by **Perry** to approve accounts payable as presented. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – APRIL 2015**

East D.D.A. District – Operating Fund #248

West D.D.A. District – Operating Fund #250

– Bond Debt Retirement Fund #396

– Special Assessment Fund #398

Mr. Smith reviewed the financial statements: Nothing out of the ordinary, final budget results would be presented to the Township Board of Trustees in June.

MOTION by **Perry** with SUPPORT by **Elmore** to receive and file the financial statements as presented. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### **A. Pure Michigan Campaign**

Chris Rowley, Executive Director, Mt. Pleasant Area Convention and Visitors Bureau requested the EDA partner in sponsoring the Mt. Pleasant Pure Michigan Campaign for Summer, Fall and hopefully Winter. Sponsorship would be \$5,000. Discussion was held on the success of the Pure Michigan Campaign, measuring future success and the impact it would have on local businesses, especially those in the hospitality sector.

MOTION by **Alwood** with SUPPORT by **Hunter** to approve sponsorship of the Pure Michigan Campaign in the amount of \$5,000 to be paid from East EDA funds. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Mr. Zalud challenged the Mt. Pleasant CVB to develop a means to measure the future success, ROI for the program.

### **B. Enterprise Park Project Update**

Pat Gaffney of the Isabella Road Commission presented the final draft plans:

- Subject to change before bid letting
- Currently working to secure easements
- Coordinating with utilities before start of project
- Schedule: Bid proposal out in two weeks, bids due in July with target start date for first week in July, completion - three months from start date
- Budget: \$800,000 plus engineering cost (addl. \$80,000 – 100,000)
- Bid proposals will be sent to the Township and EDA
- Road Commission is Engineer of Record, will manage the project, pay bills and submit invoices to the EDA for reimbursement
- Road Commission will provide supporting documents with invoices, as requested

Mr. Gaffney also gave a brief update of the Lincoln Bridge Project:

- Currently in design process, making changes for submittal to MDOT
- Working with Lorenz to include a storm drain in the project
- Scheduled for 2016 as part of Critical Bridge funding granted (95/5% match)
- Project will be three lanes with a paved shoulder

### **C. Tree Policy Update**

Doug Schultz of Rowe Professional Services presented policy recommendations to the Board. Discussion was held on the different options, goals for aesthetics, the updated sign ordinance, encouraging monument signs, and the financial impact to local businesses.

Mr. Sprague of University Motor Mall spoke from the audience regarding his tree issues:

- Trees damaging car inventory, blocking view from the street, creates a safety hazard
- He claimed responsibility for having (2) unauthorized trees removed from his lot
- Stated that changing to a monument sign would be a financial burden
- Stated that if he was not allowed to take all the trees down, the owners would not take down the house on the property, which was ordered demolished by the Building Official

Discussion included establishing a mitigation fund which would be used to replace future damaged trees, and setting up a committee to review the tree policy. Bob Elmore volunteered for the committee.

**Action Items:** Rowe to develop list of other communities to ask about similar situations, the Township will provide cost estimates for minimum requirements for a monument sign.

**General Projects Update**

Mr. Smith gave a brief update of the following projects:

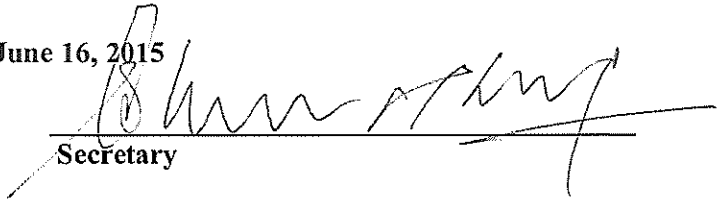
- Overpass repair is completed
- It was determined the LED Christmas lights were too expensive
- Banners to be hung as soon as they are available

Chairman Kequom adjourned meeting at 6:47 PM.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Next Scheduled Regular Meeting of EDA Board – **June 16, 2015**

**APPROVED BY**

  
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**Secretary**

**(Recorded by Angela Schofield)**