

REGULAR DDA MINUTES

March 19, 2014

5:00 PM

Jack Smith called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM.

Present: Chairman Jack Smith, Mary Stanton, Jessica Bills, and Tom Sawdey

Absent: Ed Smith, Teresa Bonifield, and Tracy Dunn

Also Present: City Manager, Doug Terry, Clerk, Susan Ballinger, Deputy Clerk, Lauren Skelly

Approval of Minutes –Tom moved to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2014 Regular Meeting, supported by Mary. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Mary moved to approve the Treasurer's Report in the amount of \$5,396.08, seconded by Jessica. Motion carried.

Call to Public: None

Update on Stage Construction Research- Susan Ballinger stated that she had spoke with Teresa Bonifield regarding the stage construction. Teresa has talked to Randy Hawkes and he has agreed to donate a wagon to use for the stage and will also build the steps up to the platform. Question was raised during a Sweet Corn Day's meeting as to whether or not it was an actual wagon or a flatbed, the flatbed being preferred. Susan will need to find out from Teresa exactly what kind of trailer is being donated. Susan also stated that there may be the possibility of getting the Litchfield Initiative involved in creating the sides on the stage. Jack stated that there are funds available to make improvements to the stage with the Michael Ray memorial fund, a dedication to Michael Ray can be decided by his family.

Update on Home Businesses relocating to Downtown – Jessica thought of three businesses that are run out of a home that may consider moving to downtown. The three businesses being Serenity Salon by Shannon Lewis, Classy Canine by Melinda Dinwiddie, and Laura Cierplowski runs a mail order business. Jessica will talk to Shannon and Melinda; Jack will talk to Laura about the possibility of moving their business to a downtown location.

New Business:

Resolution 2014-01 Amend the 2013-2014 DDA Budget – Jessica moved to adopt Resolution 2014-01 to amend the 2013-2014 DDA Budget, seconded by Mary. Motion carried.

Resolution 2014-02 Adopt the 2014-2015 DDA Budget – Tom moved to adopt Resolution 2014-02 to adopt the 2014-2015 DDA Budget, seconded by Jessica. Motion carried.

Update on Laundry Mat – Doug has talked to Mr. Skeebea out of Reading, MI. He stated that he gave him a tour of the city. Mr. Skeebea is applying for grants and trying to get funding with interest in bringing a laundry mat to Litchfield.

Update on the Exchange Building – Discussion was held regarding the purchase of the Exchange Building and the ideas of the new owner. Brian Smith has sold the building to Shelly Paige. Mrs. Paige has multiple ideas on business opportunities to bring to the area. Questions were raised about whether or not they have a business open now. Susan stated she will contact Mrs. Paige to find out if they are open for business.

Discussion regarding Meat Market/Vegetable Stand – Discussion was held regarding a meat market and vegetable stand coming to Litchfield. Jack stated he will talk to Brenda Flint, who has interest in this project, to discover possibilities of having meat vendors such as Nagel's or Jerome Country Market sell meat and vegetables here.

Discussion regarding Butler Motor Speedway tickets promotion – Jack stated he was given thirty-five tickets to Butler Motor Speedway. Discussion was held regarding ways to give away the tickets. Jessica asked that she get tickets and use them at the school to give to students as a reward for good behavior. Jack gave her twelve tickets to hand out at the school. Ideas were given about ways to do drawings to include the downtown businesses. Mary suggested a drawing at the local businesses where people can put their name and number in a drawing and then could have Marge announce the winner weekly on the Litchfield News.

Bills for Approval – Mary moved to pay the City of Litchfield in the amount of \$500.00 for reimbursement of 2012-2013 Audit, seconded by Tom. Motion carried.

Manual Checks – None

Adjourn – Jessica moved to adjourn at 5:45 p.m., supported by Tom. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Lauren Skelly, Deputy Clerk