



Charter Township of Meridian  
Downtown Development Authority (DDA)  
Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Rd., Okemos, MI 48864  
Monday, February 1, 2021 – Minutes

**Members**

**Present:** Susan Fulk, Renee Korrey, Scott Weaver, Peter Campbell, Will Randle, Supervisor Ron Styka, Jim Raynak and Tom Stanko

**Members**

**Absent:** Jim Spanos, Bill Cawood

**Staff**

**Present:** Community Planning & Development Director Mark Kieselbach, Neighborhoods & Economic Development Director Amber Clark, and Township Manager Frank L. Walsh

**Others**

**Present:** Treasurer Phil Deschaine

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Korrey called the meeting to order at 7:31am and read the mission statement.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

**MOTION BY MEMBER RANDLE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY SUPERVISOR STYKA. MOTION APPROVED 9-0.**

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 4, 2021

Member Stanko stated he was not in attendance at the January 4<sup>th</sup> meeting and his name should be removed as present.

**MOTION BY MEMBER FULK TO APPROVE THE AMENDED MINUTES. SUPPORTED BY SUPERVISOR STYKA. MOTION APPROVED 9-0.**

4. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

Staff provided a summary update on the January 2021 Financial Report. Report on file.

6. AUTHORIZATION OF PAYMENTS

Director Clark stated the January Consumers Energy bill of \$158.13 was prepaid.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. Village of Okemos Progress Report

Director Clark reported the demolition is complete. Member Randle announced he is working on pricing including infrastructure pricing for the project. He is still optimistic about the project, but the world is on hold for now because of the pandemic. He and Director Clark will be meeting with Piper & Gold this week to discuss the messaging moving forward.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Village of Okemos Celebration-Subcommittee Event and Celebration Planning

Chair Korrey discussed the idea of creating an active subcommittee that would work on events, grants, and beautification of the DDA. The following individuals volunteered to serve on this subcommittee: Sue Fulk, Renee Korrey, Jim Raynak, Scott Weaver, and Tom Stanko. Director Clark mentioned that the existing DDA streetlights may be something the committee discusses. Should they be moved? Where should they be relocated?

b. Proposed Village of Okemos Mural

Director Clark stated that a community member is interested in developing a mural for the DDA area.

9. REPORTS

A. Township Board

Supervisor Styka reported the following:

- The Board will be introducing a resolution for Black History Month.
- The Board approved small business support grants for over 100 local businesses.
- The Joint Meeting of Boards and Commissions met last week.
- On February 20, 2021, the Board will be having a Retreat.
- On February 16, 2021, the Board will be having a Special Meeting to discuss recreational marihuana.

B. Township Manager

Manager Walsh reported the following:

- The Township Annual Report will be distributed this morning.
- Please attend the 2/16 Board meeting if you wish to share your opinions on recreational marihuana.
- In 2021, the Board goals for the Township include expanding broadband, updating signage, fixing local roads, expanding solar and enhancing our website.
- The enhanced deer management program is going well with 216 of the 326 deer goal.

C. Planning Commission

Director Kieselbach provided a summary of recent Planning Commission activities. At the last Planning Commission meeting, they appointed Mark Blumer to serve as the representative to the DDA.

D. Chair Report

None.

E. Staff Report

Director Clark reported that the amendment to the MUPUD for the Village of Okemos was well received. At the public hearing, Will Randle and Director Kieselbach made a presentation that helped to clear up the misconceptions of the project. To date, the Board has approved a total of \$654,000 in two rounds of small business support grants.

10. OPEN DISCUSSION/BOARD COMMENTS

Treasurer Deschaine did express attending the February 16<sup>th</sup> Special Board Meeting on recreational marihuana to make your opinions known on having 6 facilities in the Township. Also, the Board will be having a retreat on February 20<sup>th</sup>.

11. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

12. NEXT MEETING DATE

a. March 1, 2021, 7:30am

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned without objection.