

## DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

August 18, 2011

Present – Chair Feigley, Vice-Chair Dierkes, Board members Armstrong, Heyn, Horsley, Lamb, Nichols, Niebauer, Rivera

Absent – Board member Goodnough, Rusas George, Weinbaum

Also present – DDA Director Barnette, John Grissim, and Arthur Shufflebarger

Approval of Minutes: Nichols moved, Lamb seconded to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2011 meeting. Motion Carried,

### Treasurer's Report:

Lamb moved, Niebauer seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion **Carried**.

DDA ownership does not automatically exempt us from property taxes, either village or township. Even village owned properties are not exempt.

### Call to the Public:

John Grissim is present today.

### Unfinished Business:

#### 1. DIA Installation

Have 7 paintings identified and where they will be located.

Liability agreements have been signed where necessary.

Will be up before the Car Show on Sept. 17. Will have the information at the Home Tour spots.

#### 2. Marketing

Franco has been good about promoting our events. They are doing something about outdoor dining downtown. And also about the new restaurants coming to town.

Cooperative Ad Campaign. We will pay \$3,000 over a ten month period for advertising in the Milford Times as well as other papers.

#### 3. The Sharrows are down. These are for cars to be aware they are sharing the road with bikes.

Ms. Barnette will make a presentation for Oakland County next week.

Southside Improvements Update. All the owners will participate in the cost. It has been bid out again as three sub contracts; demo and concrete, landscape and irrigation, and bike racks and fencing. Will open bids August 25, will award bids September 15, and they can start September 26, with completion date of November 27. Ms. Barnette and Mr. Grissim will be general contractors for the project.

John's List Update. Most of that list has been completed.

Some of the new trees are not getting enough water.

There is a 3-M product to put on wrought iron fencing before it is painted which will keep the rust down.

The bird houses are being repaired.

Landscaping at Tony Ray's property is still on John's list.

John's list is a great story for Franco.

### New Business:

#### 1. Report on Tax Tribunal Cases.

The township argued the tax tribunal case with their attorney, and then presented the DDA with a bill. We had been asked for our opinion but not informed we were incurring legal costs or what those costs would be. The bill is about \$1,000.

We are not the only taxing jurisdiction that was affected by the taxable values being negotiated but we are the only ones being billed. Our portion would be 25% of the total.

Ms. Dierkes moved, Mr. Niebauer seconded that we pay our percentage of the legal bill due the township for tax tribunal attorney fees, and send the check with a letter going on record that we need to know ahead of time if there will be fees. Motion **Carried**.

Mr. Armstrong asked that the DDA consider a Business Award program or a Downtown Support Award to be given annually or as appropriate. There may be general criteria at the Chamber of Commerce as they did a Business Improvement Award for several years.

Mr. Armstrong moved, Ms. Lamb seconded to go into Executive Session at 8:50 to discuss a Real Estate Transaction. Roll call vote: Chair Feigley, Vice Chair Dierkes, Board members Armstrong, Heyn, Horsley, Lamb, Nichols, Niebauer, Rivera. Motion **Carried**.

Return to regular session at 9:01 a.m.

Mr. Armstrong moved, Mr. Nichols seconded, to proceed as discussed in Executive Session. Motion **Carried**.

Director's Report:

The hanging baskets in the District are not doing well. Part of it is due to weather conditions; part due to not being watered every day. Our baskets are the only size that will fit in the brackets. Can't put larger baskets in the existing brackets.

There will be public hearings for liquor licenses; one for O'Callaghan's, one for Tavern 131.

Upcoming Events

Farmer's Market is every Thursday at Liberty and Main.

Home Tour is September 16 & 17.

The Car Show is Sunday, September 17.

"Milford Meets the Masters" will be mid-September to early December.

Board member Comments:

Mr. Armstrong said the Road Commission of Oakland County is spending a lot of money in our area. On signal lights at Duck Lake Road; and signs are up warning of the next intersection name. On Milford Road at Dawson Road they are widening to five lanes to make turning lanes.

And CSX is working on Commerce Road at the underpass.

Mr. Shufflebarger said GM will be at the tax tribunal on September 13; Mr. Green has been invited to attend.

Mr. Horsley asked to correct the minutes stating The Clothing Cove did have things on the street for Sidewalk Sales.

Adjourn:

Ms. Rivera moved, Mr. Niebauer seconded to adjourn at 9:14 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Phyllis Motley, Recording Secretary