

**Village of Baldwin
Downtown Development Authority
June 20, 2024, Minutes
Regular Meeting
(preliminary)**

CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call: Jane Allison called the Meeting to order at 3:01 PM with board members:

Present: Jane Allison, Darci Maldonado, Jim Truxton, Seth Wenger, Tony Gagliardo, Andy Gremel

Absent: Debbie Smith-Olson, Josh Johnson, Lamont Hill (Lamont has submitted a letter of resignation via email)

Staff: Robert Toland, DDA Director

Acknowledgment of Visitors: Meredith Gremel

GENERAL BUSINESS

- A. **Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made by Jane Allison to approve the agenda, supported by Seth Wenger. Motion carried.
- B. **Approval of Minutes:** A motion to approve the **May 16, 2024, regular** meeting minutes, with corrections, was made by Seth Wenger and supported by Darci Maldonado. Motion carried.
- C. **Treasurers' Report:** Jane Allison presented the Treasurer's report through June 20, 2024, indicating a general fund balance of \$372,480.39, with disbursements totaling \$14,706.97, and total income of \$16.05 which was interest.

The following bills were presented for payment:

Consumers Energy	\$ 337.32 (streetlights)
Robert Toland Consulting	\$ 1,200.00 (retainer & meeting fee)
H2Oasis	\$ 2,284.15 (start-up and repairs)
<u>Village of Baldwin</u>	<u>\$ 1,217.32 (water bills)</u>
Total bills	\$ 5,038.79

Andy Gremel asked if the bill from H2Oasis was typical of their cost and suggested contacting Everett Landscaping as an alternative.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's report and to pay the bills, was made by Seth Wenger, and supported by Andy Gremel. Motion carried by roll call. All Ayes.

- D. **Committee reports:** It was reported that the Pure Markette Grand Opening went very well. There was a good turnout and a lot of activity. Meredith Gremel is expected to attend today's meeting to provide her report but may be running late.

E. Acknowledge Communications: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

BOARD COMMENTS: Jim Truxton has provided a hand-out to the DDA concerning a downtown sound system, presented by “Technomad”. Darci Maldonado stated that the Pure Markette Grand Opening was excellent and added that many vendors sold out of merchandise. Andy Gremel endorsed that sentiment and added that even though it was very hot, the clean-up crew did a great job as well.

OLD BUSINESS

A. **902 Michigan Project:** No discussion.

B. **Trees, Flowerboxes & Irrigation System:** Randi Gould is working on the planter boxes. The summer banners are up but there was a question about the banners being rotated or changed occasionally. The Troutarama banners will be installed by Jane Allison and Jane is ordering additional brackets to install additional banners. Four of the Rotary trees have died at the Trout Sculpture park and one on Main Street. The Rotary will submit a grant request to replace the 4 of their trees that have died. The wayfinding sign on M-37/US-10 north of Denmark Street is missing and has apparently been stolen. The police report has been received on the light pole that was hit by a car. It will be submitted for insurance claim. There was discussion on the benches that Jane Allison is refurbishing. Four or five have been finished but the wood is extremely hard. She has gone through two planer blades and has decided to use the scraping and sanding method instead of planing. There are about a dozen more to do. There was discussion about the letter from IAI that the irrigation system must be tested for back-flow prevention. Andy Gremel suggested using Everett Landscaping for that.

C. **8th Street Upgrade:** Jim Truxton reported that he has recently met with MDOT and the engineers about their contract. There will not be sidewalk installed on the north side of 8th Street just the southside. The project may occur in October. Handicapped ramps at intersection crosswalks are included in the project

D. **8th Street Fish Farm and Dam:** The garage and café building have been demolished. Concrete pieces are being stockpiled for recycling as part of the project. The fish cleaning building will be preserved and remodeled as a potential camp store or office. The dam project is being funded 100% by grants with assistance from the Conservation Resource Alliance.

E. **Downtown Vision Implementation:** Tabled to the August meeting.

F. **RRC Update:** Most tasks are complete. The Planning Commission held a public hearing this week on adding “walk-up windows” as a feature in the C-1 Village Center zoning district. There are only one or two tasks remaining to be completed by the Village Council.

G. **Review Byaws – membership:** Tabled to the August meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: None

(see E. above) Committee reports:

Pure Markette - Meredith Gremel reported that the opening event was really successful. Many positive comments were received from participants. Many downtown businesses coordinated events with the market. There was a drone taking video of the event that will be made available when it is ready. At least two local news agencies interviewed Meredith and others this morning and she expects good coverage on the TV news. Two of the favorite vendors were Nantucket Bakery and Parker Seafood. The Baldwin School band enjoyed performing there. Other entertainment was provided by a Michigan songstress who brought along a sound system that proved useful.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was offered by Seth Wenger and supported by Darci Maldonado. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:03 PM.

Meeting Schedule: The next regular DDA meeting will be held July 18, 2024, at the Village office at 3:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Toland, Administrator
for
Deborah Smith-Olson, Secretary/Treasurer