

West Branch Township DDA

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www.westbranchtownship.org/wbtwp-dda

Meeting Minutes January 19th 2023

Meeting Called to order at 4:05 pm with Pledge

Members Present – Bob Griffin Jr., Jim Morris, Laura Hanlon, Brad Neubecker & Jay Spaulding

Members absent –Ken Gildner, Greg Morris, Mark Pecella

Others Present at Meeting – Scott Bell & Jeremy Hickmott

Meeting Minutes – Meeting Minutes from December 15th 2022 were approved with Motion from B. Neubecker and 2nd by J. Morris. ALL YES ON ROLL CALL.

President's Report – Little to report for the month but there was some discussion regarding the status of the secret campground project. It was mentioned that the prices on products for the project continues to increase. It was also mentioned that attendance continues to be high from year to year at the campground.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Jay Spaulding had submitted a written Treasurers report to the board for the month which included details regarding T.I.F allocations and expenditures for the month. The report included a review of the DDA checking and savings accounts which combine totaled to \$294,542.82 as of January 18th 2023. During the Treasurer's report the board also discussed moving money from the DDA's current accounts into another option including potentially moving it into a CD in an effort to increase the amount that could be made off interest.

Motion from B. Griffin Jr. and 2nd by J. Morris to move from the DDA accounts \$200,000 to a bank CD. ALL YES ON ROLL CALL.

Motion from L. Hanlon 2nd by B. Neubecker to approve the treasurer's report. ALL YES ON ROLL CALL.

The Following Invoices were submitted to the Treasurer for Payment.

- Invoice Number 4238 – Decker Agency (M-55 Bond) \$500.00.
- Jeremy R. Hickmott (Contracted Work), Invoice Number 02-10 - \$1,000 (Payroll).

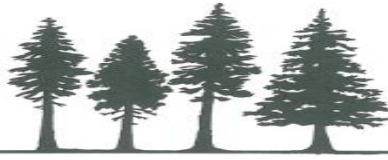
Motion by J. Morris and 2nd by B. Neubecker to approve the above invoice totaling \$1,500. ALL YES ON ROLL CALL.

Old Business:

M-55 Pathway Retaining Wall – The Board was provided with a bid from K&J Excavation LLC for the retaining wall work that needs to be finished on the M-55 Pathway. It was mentioned that this cost estimate was over 50% less costly than the last estimate that the DDA had received. The total cost estimate for the retaining wall was \$49,700.00.

Motion by B. Griffin Jr. and 2nd by J. Morris to accept the bid totaling \$49,700.00 for the retaining wall on the M-55 Pathway project. ALL YES ON ROLL CALL.

Open Discussion / Future Projects – The DDA board had an open and general discussion regarding future projects within the West Branch Township DDA District. A list of projects from the West Branch Township Capital



Improvement plan was provided to the board. This list consisted of many things including infrastructure on the business loop, park expansions, and pathway expansion. S. Bell provided the board as well additional cost information for two projects. Those projects included expanding the sewer line from where it ends on the business loop by Aldi and taking the line down to just before the railroad crossing on the business loop. It was also explained why this was being considered, the goal would be to encourage additional business growth in that area where there are currently 6 parcels up for sale. Having the utilities there could help in the sale and further development of that property.

The other project of longer discussion was the cook road water and pathway project. This project was placed on hold after M55 costs increased. It was mentioned that this could be an easy project to get back into as some of the engineering work and permitting has already been done and is still active with this project.

New Business:

Joint DDA Meeting – Information was given to the board that there was a planned Joint DDA’s meeting scheduled from January 19th at 6:00pm at the Ogemaw Township Hall.

Public Comment – NONE ADDITIONAL

The Date for the Next DDA Meeting was planned for February 16th 2023.

Motion by L. Hanlon and 2nd by B. Neubecker to adjourn the meeting at 4:25 PM. ALL IN FAVOR, ALL YES.

Bob Griffin Jr.
Chairperson

Jeremy R. Hickmott
Recording Secretary