



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CLINTON DDA

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**Gratiot Downtown Development Authority of the Charter Township of Clinton
Baker College Community Room
Wednesday
October 10, 2018 Minutes**

DDA Vice Chair Carolyn Dorian called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m. in the absence of Chair Pat Moran. Members Present: Bruno Burnosky, Carolyn Dorian, Jim Johnson, Mark Krutell, Mario Lavinio, Donna Sassin, Pete Thomas and Tom Tignanelli. *A quorum was present.*

Others Present: Also present were Dave Stafford of Stafford Landscaping, Clinton Township Police Sergeant Curt Randall, and DDA Liaison Joe Peruzzi.

A motion to approve the minutes of September 12, 2018 was made by Tom Tignanelli and seconded by Jim Johnson. Motion approved.

Reports/Presentations

Treasurer's Report: DDA Liaison Joe Peruzzi reported that the DDA's bank balance currently stands at \$108,541. Expenditures from April 1 to the present stand at \$34,855. Most recent expenditures include \$75 to ATT and \$156 to DTE. A previous check issued but never cashed by the Clinton Valley Kiwanis Club due to non-delivery was voided by the Charter Township of Clinton and reissued for \$1,000. That expenditure will be recorded in next month's bank balance statement. Two other checks to ATT and DTE were also voided due to non-delivery and included in a subsequent billing by the two utility companies. Those amounts are reflected in the current bank balance. All other expenditures are also current in the bank balance. Mr. Thomas and Ms. Dorian questioned why they had not received any of the approved checks for signature. Mr. Peruzzi said the checks were being signed by the township's Treasurer and Clerk in the absence of a Planning Director who along with Mr. Peruzzi prior to retiring would bring the checks to the various signatories of the DDA. Mr. Peruzzi said he could additionally email the list of checks issued to date in addition to reflecting same in the DDA Minutes and the Agenda as he currently is doing. Members thought that emailing a list of issued checks might not be necessary. He added that the new Planning Director and/or Assistant would either make other arrangements or again bring checks to DDA members for signature once they are hired.

Marketing Support: DDA Liaison Peruzzi reminded Bruno Burnosky and Mario Lavinio that should they want to remain on the DDA board that they had to submit an application for same to the Trustees Office. Mr. Peruzzi brought along copies of the appointment application. Mr. Burnosky filled out a pair of application for the DDA and also for his position on the Housing Board. Mr.

Peruzzi said he would deliver Mr. Burnosky's applications to the township later that morning. Mr. Lavinio said he would contact and return to the township his application. Mr. Peruzzi said that the electronic sign exterior façade repair had been turned over to the township's Department of Public Services and he would further remind them of the needed repair. He provided DPS with the name of a sign installation and repair company used by Moran Chevy...Ed Phillips of Phillips Sign Company 586-468-7110. Carolyn Dorian questioned if the township's Conservation Committee had ever acted on the Greening of Macomb applications submitted by her dealership as well as an overall submission by the DDA. Mr. Peruzzi said he had not heard of any forward motion on this program and would check with Trustee Mike Keyes who had originally presented the program to the DDA. He also said he would follow up on a similar submittal prepared by him for the Arboretum Committee when he was a member of that committee earlier this year. He informed the DDA members that the hiring of a new Planning Director will be before the Board of Trustees at the next meeting of the board and that the new director would no doubt be in attendance at the next DDA meeting.

Landscaping Report: Dave Stafford of Stafford Landscaping presented a proposal for reconfiguring some of the median landscaped beds where shrubbery had died due to salting of the Gratiot corridor. He also suggested a spring deep root feeding of a few trees along the corridor that appeared to be stressed. He said he would prepare an electronic file of said proposal and email to DDA members for comment. All weeding and mulching are just about concluded for this growing season and he thought the poison ivy and other weeds found prior to the Gratiot Cruise weeding and mulching was now under control. He mentioned that Moran Chevy was looking to pay for any improvements made to the landscaped beds in front of the dealership.

Police Report: Sgt. Curt Randall said that there were 21 incidents of crime in the DDA area during the three weeks in September reported by the police department. Sgt. Randall said the department had hired one new police officer as a replacement for a recent retiree and projected that two more officers would be retiring in the near future. He addressed comments in a recent news article that reported on a spike in crime in Clinton Township. The department has rebutted that information since the increase was almost entirely caused by a spike in domestic violence that the department cannot predict or prepare for. Sgt. Randall added that both Clintondale and Chippewa Valley school districts now had new officers assigned to their schools.

Misc. Reports: Donna Sassin said the fall Gratiot cleanup went well but that she along with DDA member Cyd Lucas had noted that the bus stop in front of the boarded-up Log Cabin restaurant was in very poor shape with very little parking for commuters. Some members again supported the idea of demolishing the former restaurant. Mr. Peruzzi said that this has been an issue for the township for many years and suggested that the new Planning Director could again look into the situation.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 a.m. The next DDA meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2018. A reminder that Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday, November 4. Turn your clocks back.

Joseph Peruzzi

Submitted by DDA Liaison Joseph Peruzzi