

**VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Tuesday, April 26, 2022 – 5:30 pm**

Chair Atchinson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Members Present: Chairman Atchinson, Vice Chair Bird, Secretary Brown, Director Chudzinski, Director Delibera, Director Laginess, Director Willis (via call-in) and Supervisor McNamara. Members Absent and Excused: Director Baskin, Director Chappell, Director Rochowiak and Recording Secretary Lothringer. Others in attendance: DDA Executive Director Ireland and an audience of one (1).

Approval of Agenda: Laginess moved, Delibera seconded to approve the Agenda with the following changes: Add New Business Item #1, Election of Officers. Carried.

Minutes: Bird moved, Chudzinski seconded to approve the DDA Minutes of Tuesday, January 25, 2022 as presented. Carried

REPORTS: DDA Executive Director provided the most recent status of MTT cases within the DDA district, provided an update on the exterior finishes for the Township's Community Center and conceptual designs for interior furnishing.

The winter banners have been taken down and the spring banners have been installed. Replacement parts for the Belleville Road streetlights have been depleted. This past winter was unusual in that three (3) streetlights were replaced on Belleville Road near Sunrise, Venetian and Atchinson Ford. It was noted that the cost to replace light poles is expensive and the DDA confirmed that insurance claims are filed when vehicles hit the poles. This helps to pay for replacement parts. An order has been submitted to Graybar on Haggerty Road and they are part of a Purchasing Service Cooperative.

Chris Girdwood, Director of Aerotropolis will attend the next meeting to provide his annual update to the DDA Board of Directors.

It was noted to the DDA Board that the 2012 bonds are callable in October 2022. Because of the current national economic climate, the savings would be negligible at best; however, if the DDA starts a new capital project, that may be the appropriate time to include a refunding of the 2012 bonds.

Reviewed grant funding options that included the following: MDOT TEDF Category C Funding, CMAQ grant, Tap Grant, Safe Streets and Roads for All and RAP grants that are/may be available in the DDA in pursuit of adding a center left turn lane on Belleville Road from Tyler to Ecorse Road. Supervisor McNamara informed that he had received an email from Congresswoman Dingell's Office that if the Township would like to be considered for a

Community Funding Project we should fill out form to go along with the letter the Supervisor initially submitted. DDA Director Ireland will work with Wade Trim to expedite this process and would also request they attend a meeting to review the various funding opportunities the DDA may have.

A left turn arrow on northbound Belleville Road was discussed based on the report by Fishbeck. The report indicates that visibility issues due to the misalignment of the road would generally dictate a “protected-only” left turn should be used. Contact will be made with the Wayne County Traffic Division for clarification.

New Business: Laginess moved, Delibera seconded to re-elect by acclamation the current executive board consisting of Craig Atchinson – Chair, Carol Bird – Vice Chair and Chris Brown – Secretary. Carried.

Adjournment: Bird moved, Delibera seconded to adjourn at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Ireland
Executive Director