

City of Hastings
Downtown Development Authority
DRAFT Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2025

1. Meeting Call to Order and Roll Call—

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 a.m. by Woods

Roll Call –

Present: Baker, Button, Hatfield, Peterson, Tossava, Ulberg, Wiswell, Woods, Ava Paterson (Student Member)

Absent: Albrecht

City Staff and Appointees: Hoke, King, Ponsetto, Resseguie

Others Present:

2. Pledge to the Flag

3. Approval/Additions/Deletions to Agenda –

Woods added the following items to the agenda under New Business:

C. Discussion of DDA publications

D. Reimbursement to City for Purchase of Rotary Broom for Clearing Snow from Sidewalks Downtown

E. Information and Discussion of Michigan Ave. Bridge Maintenance

Motion by Wiswell, second by Hatfield, to approve the agenda as amended.

All ayes, motion carried

4. Approval of Minutes of The Regular November 21, 2024, DDA Meeting—

Motion by Wiswell, second by Ulberg, to approve the minutes as presented.

All ayes, motion carried.

5. Financial Statements & Budget for Review –

King said the budget data have been updated through Dec. 31, 2024.

The board discussed line items for the upcoming 2025 – 2026 DDA budget.

6. Façade and BEIG Update-

King said the facade grant and BEIG spreadsheets have been updated through Dec. 31, 2024.

7. Open Public Comment and Discussion –

Woods read a letter to the DDA, from Charlotte and Michael Anton, praising the new downtown streetscape Christmas decorations.

8. Old Business-

A. Façade Grant Request from Nathan Winnick for 502 W. State St.-

No action was taken because the request did not meet the criteria to qualify for a façade grant.

9. New Business

A. Review and Consider Expenditure for Holiday Decorations-

Motion by Tossava, second by Hatfield, to approve the expenditure of \$29,734.00 for the purchase of holiday decorations.

Ayes: Baker, Button, Hatfield, Peterson, Tossava, Ulberg, Wiswell, Woods

Nays:

Absent: Albrecht

All ayes, motion carried.

B. Annual Election of Officers—

Motion by Tossava, second by Peterson, to elect the following slate of officers for 2025: Patty Woods, chair; Deb Hatfield, vice-chair; Deb Button, secretary.

All ayes, motion carried.

C. Discussion of DDA sponsored brochures for Hastings Live, Events, and Downtown Shopping and Dining-

Hoke introduced discussion about annual publications, and brochures. No action was taken.

D. Consider Request for Reimbursement of Cost for Large Rotary Broom Replacement-

Motion by Hatfield, second by Peterson, to approve reimbursing the city \$5,500.00 for the purchase of the large rotary broom used for clearing sidewalks.

Ayes: Baker, Button, Hatfield, Peterson, Tossava, Ulberg, Wiswell, Woods

Nays:

Absent: Albrecht

All ayes, motion carried.

E. Discussion of Michigan Ave. Bridge Maintenance—

King said the city is having an engineering study done regarding the procedure and costs of removing the flaking paint from the Michigan Ave. bridge. Discussion and information only, no action taken.

9. DDA Member Comment –

Woods asked about the date for the sculpture selection for the 2005- 2026 Downtown Sculpture Exhibit.

Hatfield said she would like to see staff use part of the \$4,000.00 budgeted for videography to hire a videographer to get some winter footage to use in online advertising.

Button said that Thornapple Township Supervisor, and former DDA member, Jim Brown had died, and a sympathy card should be sent to the family on behalf of the DDA.

Baker said the 2024 Jingle & Mingle was the biggest so far.

Peterson asked if staff had received any feedback from downtown merchants on the salt free snow melt distributed by the DDA.

11. Open Public Comment and Discussion – None

12. Adjournment

Motion by Wiswell, second by Hatfield, to adjourn.

All ayes, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 a.m.

Patty Woods, Chair

Deb Button, Secretary