

Charter Township of Filer DDA

Regular Meeting

Proposed Minutes

November 7, 2023
4:30pm

Filer Township Offices
2111 Nelson Street, Manistee, MI 49660
231-723-3138

Chair	Vice-Chair	Treasurer	Supervisor	Member	Member	Member	Member	Member	Director
Robert Yates	Tom Chycinski	Kathy Gutowski	Terry Walker	Kyle Gurzynski	Al Frye	Mathew Johnson	Bhavik Patell	Vacant	Tamara Buswinka

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Yates at 4:30p.m.

Roll Call

Members Present: Yates, Walker, Gurzynski, Chycinski, Gutowski, Frye

Members Excused Absence: Johnson, Patell

Members Unexcused Absence:

Others Present: Buswinka

Consent Agenda

Gurzynski moved, supported by Walker, to approve the consent agenda and pay the following bills: Fishbeck \$1,613.18. Motion passed unanimously.

Consideration of the Minutes

Chycinski moved, supported by Gurzynski, to approve the October 3, 2023 minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Gurzynski moved, supported by Walker, to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion passed unanimously.

Gurzynski moved, supported by Frye, to authorize Gutowski to spend not to exceed \$4500.00 on lights for the Welcome to Filer sign. Roll Call Vote: Yates; Yes, Walker; Yes, Gurzynski; Yes, Chycinski; Yes, Frye; Yes. Motion passes.

Chairman's Report

Chycinski moved, supported by Frye, to approve the contract with Latitude 44 Consulting for the calendar year 2024. Roll Call Vote: Yates; Yes, Walker; Yes, Gurzynski; Yes, Chycinski; Yes, Frye; Yes. Motion passes.

Supervisor's Report

No report.

Director's Report

See attached report.

Board Member Comments

No additional comments.

Public Comment

No public comments.

Adjournment

Gutowski moved, supported by Gurzynski, to adjourn the meeting at 5:15p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Minutes Approval

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Al Frye, DDA Secretary

Next regularly scheduled Board meeting is Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at 4:30pm.

A meeting informational packet is available for public inspection at the Filer Township office, 2505 Filer City Road. The Filer Township DDA does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in its programs or activities. The DDA Chairperson has been designated to coordinate compliance with the non-discrimination requirements contained in Section 35.107 of the Department of Justice regulations. Information concerning the provisions of the Americans with Disability Act, and the rights provided thereunder, are available from the DDA

DDA Director Report

November 2023

Hamlet:

John Boonstra communicated that they would not have anything for the Boards to look at for the November meeting but are eyeing December to present their ideas to the Boards. I was told they have a site plan of their project and are evaluating the pro forma (which informs them on the financial feasibility of the project considering their finances, Township incentives, and local/state financing opportunities).

Jason Balaban's team is working to collaborate with Geerlings Development. They have been exploring facade improvements, new tenant compositions, interior repairs, and forming a working relationship with UHaul, all with the Hamlet project in mind. They have shared their list of properties available for lease; I shared the list with many groups in the region interested in economic development. They are intrigued by the idea of the Veterans Clinic and an assisted living facility. But, they have not ruled out demolishing their existing structures to add to the Hamlet project. They routinely request to be a part of public meetings.

Balaban's team requested that the DDA consider developing a facade grant opportunity. They need \$10,000.00 to do the facade improvements.

Holiday Lighting:

The community found a great community partner in Scott Fisher and Dane Colby, D&S Development, owners of the building at the southeast corner of Merkey and US31. They retooled their redevelopment design ideas for their building to ensure the pine tree was not only saved, but positioned well for use by the community. They will also be creating a wooden structure close to

the tree to be used for any number of uses related to community and the tree. Shine installed the lights but had to use a temporary power outlet (because of the construction work going on to the main building) to light the tree. I am working with D&S Development to find a spot to plug the lights for the duration of the season.

Submitted by:
Tamara Buswinka, DDA Director