

MINUTES OF MEETING OF TAX INCREMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY
MARCH 9, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jungquist at 7:30 a.m. in the Council Chambers of the East Tawas City Hall.

Members Present: Brewer, Fountain, Jungquist, Mooney, O'Connor and Ruster.
Members Absent: Council Representative Klenow.
Members Excused: Elliott.
Staff Present: City Manager Leslie, Director Pasakarnis and Clerk/Treasurer Baker.

O'Connor moved, Brewer seconded, CARRIED, to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2010 regular meeting as presented.

Fountain moved, Mooney seconded, CARRIED, to accept the TIFA and Construction Fund financial reports as presented.

Director Pasakarnis reported that the pre-application for the USDA Rural Development grant for parking lots has been submitted.

Director Pasakarnis reported that Tony, the electrician from the Streetscape project, has recommended that the plans for the Sawyer Street parking lot be changed to have the two dual-head lights in the parking lot moved one parking spot closer to Sawyer Street and add two dual-head lights in the shrubbery islands. We already have the light fixtures but installation costs would be approximately \$24,000. He felt this would be a good idea because the lights are being changed to LED lights. It was the consensus of the members to wait until the lights downtown are converted to LED lights to determine if these changes should be made to the plans.

Director Pasakarnis reported that the benches, bike racks and trash receptacles will not be included in the bid specs for the project but would be purchased directly by the Authority. She also reported that she still needs to get the sidewalk easement forms signed by the four property owners. Attorney Freel has drafted an easement agreement. Valley City Signs will be correcting the sign installations this Spring but the additional signs that need to be installed will be installed by John Henry Excavating and the Department of Public Works to save money.

Steve Fountain mentioned that he had recently noticed that the signs in the Employee Parking Lot indicate four hour parking and no overnight parking. These rules should not apply to the Employee Parking Lot and the signs will be removed.

A question was raised concerning the plantings at the four signature signs. The Business Association will be asked to take care of the two signs on either side of Newman Street and Director Pasakarnis will take care of the signs at the City limits.

Tim O'Connor noted that some of the tree grates have been damaged. He also noted that some of the upright tree guards have also been damaged. City Manager Leslie will have the Department of Public Works look at these to see if they can be fixed. Director Pasakarnis will also discuss this with

Bruce Buchinger.

Steve Fountain noted that the green bricks in the sidewalk design become very slippery when wet. A discussion was held concerning the sealing of the exposed aggregate. It was noted that there are still a couple businesses that are using salt on the sidewalks rather than Avalanche. A discussion was held concerning the timing of repaving Newman Street. Director Pasakarnis noted that the Authority really needs to decide about striping and the potential of adding a bike lane on Newman Street before it is repaved.

Director Pasakarnis reported that the Court hearing for summary disposition of the M.C. Smith lawsuit has been rescheduled for Monday, May 3, 2010.

Director Pasakarnis reported that there will be a meeting later today with Bob Wiltse and representatives from the Department of Natural Resources concerning the dockage fees for larger boats. They will also be meeting with Representative Joel Sheltrown in Lansing next week concerning this issue. Director Pasakarnis has also set up a meeting for Mr. Wiltse to meet with other operators of charter/excursion boats.

Director Pasakarnis reported that Develop Iosco, Inc. has submitted an Appropriations Request to Congressman Bart Stupak's office for improvements to the East Tawas State Dock. She also reported that she has been in contact with Pearl Seas Cruises which is interested in creating a charter cruise with the Audubon Society for birding opportunities. The Port-to-Port Excursion Boat Collaborative is also working on educational day excursions. The Port of Call "concierge book" will be shared with other regional organizations to promote the area.

City Manager Leslie noted that the Authority needs to look at the scope of the Director position and how far she should be going with regional involvement.

Director Pasakarnis reported that Tim Allen has taped the radio spot for the Travel Michigan Partnership. Northeast Michigan will be part of the website presence beginning April 1st and the radio campaign will begin in May. Although the location has not yet been determined, a roll-out event for the Travel Michigan Partnership is being planned for mid-April with 100-150 people expected to attend.

Director Pasakarnis reported that Cool City banners for East and West Bay Streets would cost approximately \$1,400 and this expense could possibly be shared with the Business Association. She also reported that the second floor of the Post Office building is being considered for the site of a new library.

Director Pasakarnis reported on the Small Town Design Initiative through MSU Extension. She indicated that the possible renovation of the second floor of the Post Office or the façade vision for the Central Business District may be good prospects for the September 15th grant cycle for this initiative.

The review of the identified priorities for the Authority was continued. There are some waterfront

properties that are currently for sale. Authority members expressed interest in the properties if funds were available. Also discussed was the plan for US 23 improvements because there is a chance that additional stimulus funds may be available but projects would need to be shovel-ready. City Manager Leslie indicated that if the Authority did not make changes to the plan designed by M.C. Smith Associates it would probably be ready to begin preparing an application.

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 13, 2010 at 7:30 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 a.m.

Blinda A. Baker
Clerk/Treasurer