

Filer Township DDA Approved Minutes

May 7, 2015 4:30pm
Filer Township Hall

2505 Filer City Road, Manistee, MI 49660
231-723-3138

Chairperson	Laura Horvat
Vice-Chair	Robert Yates
Treasurer	Tim Fogarty
Supervisor	Terry Walker
Member	Tony Gagliardo
Member	Connie Grenn
Member	Phil Peralta
Member	Ed Williams
Member	Larry Bielski
Director	Tamara Buswinka

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

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

Roll Call

Members Present: Horvat, Yates, Fogarty, Walker, Gagliardo, Williams, Peralta, Bielski,
Members Absent: Grenn

Others Present: Tamara Buswinka, Director and Brian Sousa, Wade Trim

Consideration of Minutes from April 7, 2015

- Walker moved, supported by Bielski, to approve the minutes from April 7, 2015. Motion passed unanimously.

Waste Water Collection and Treatment Development Reports

Chairperson Horvat moved the discussion regarding the waste water collection and treatment development to the beginning of the agenda to allow for the City of Manistee Interim Manager Ben Bifoss and City Council Member Jim Smith an opportunity to answer any questions the Board wished to pose.

Bifoss expressed the City’s willingness to work with Filer to come to amicable terms regarding a partnership and stated that they are willing to work as fast as the Township wishes to work through the issues and finalize the arrangement.

Ad Hoc Sewer Committee Report

Fogarty reported that the Committee last met on April 23, 2015 to discuss the recent counter proposal from the City of Manistee to provide treatment to Filer DDA Special Assessment District waste water. It was agreed at that meeting to move forward to have further discussions with the City. The Township met with the City of Manistee on May 6th to begin discussing the City’s counter proposal. Fogarty asked that the Board to voice their thoughts about the counter proposal.

Wade Trim Report

Sousa reviewed the offer from the City of Manistee stating that the City would consider Filer a “bulk user” and set rates that would be more competitive than those offered by the LRBOI. He assured the

Board that Filer is currently walking two paths towards providing waste water treatment: an arrangement with LRBOI and with the City of Manistee. No loan or grant is currently in jeopardy.

Gagliardo stated that he is most concerned about time- specifically moving the Township towards a finalized solution without jeopardizing existing grants, loans, relationships. The entire Board concurred.

General discussion ensued related to timelines.

Motion by Gagliardo, supported by Fogarty, to reopen and continue discussions with the City of Manistee regarding a waste water treatment agreement that will be concluded no later than 60 days from today. Motion passes unanimously.

Next meeting with the City of Manistee is May 19th, 2015.

Treasurer's Report

- Fogarty discussed the transfer of funds to West Shore Bank. All accounts are established and the funds are being managed.
- Gagliardo moved, supported by Walker, to accept the Treasurer's report and pay the bills. Motion passes unanimously.

Chairman's Report

No Chairman's report.

Horvat agreed to call Grenn to discuss her commitment to the DDA Board and review the attendance policy. Board members agreed that lack of attendance by Grenn indicates a lack of commitment and perhaps Grenn should step down. It was remarked that with all the work the DDA is doing to position Filer Township to be competitive in the market place DDA Board members must be willing to work and commit to the projects and issues the Township is facing.

Supervisor's Report

No Supervisor's report.

Director's Report

- Buswinka attended the Filer Planning Commission meeting to discuss their involvement in the Commercial Corridor Planning process. While no commitment was made, Buswinka was asked to attend the June meeting to give a power point presentation.
- Buswinka begin the process of developing the Filer Township DDA Economic Development Strategic Plan. Values, the beginning of a mission and vision statement were discussed.

Public Comment

- No public comment.

Adjournment

Gagliardo moved, supported by Bielski, to adjourn the meeting at 5:45pm. Motion passes unanimously.

Next Scheduled Meeting Tuesday June 2, 2015 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