

A regular meeting of the Alma Downtown Development Authority (ADDA) was held at the Alma Municipal Building. **A quorum of the Authority was present.**

Authority members present: Stacey Ensz, Nancy Gallagher, Donna Kolar, Brent Moeggenberg, Canyon Platt, Andy Shafley, Ken Solomon, and Katie Tobias.

Authority members absent: Joe Ahern, Carol Freed, Ken Kline, and Greg Mapes.

Also present: Aeris Ripley, and Sara Anderson.

DDA Director Aeris Ripley called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Motion by Moeggenberg, seconded by Kolar, to approve the minutes of March 10, 2022, as presented. Motion carried.

DDA Balance Report

Ripley reviewed financial statements for the Authority. He noted current fund balance is \$115,565.78. Ripley said millage revenue is projected to be approximately \$24,000 and will help to build the fund balance.

Motion by Gallagher, seconded by Moeggenberg, to receive the balance report. Motion carried.

Discussion Items

Ripley reviewed a design/engineering proposal from OHM Advisors for the downtown parking lot, alley, and drainage project. He explained the services included in the proposal, and the cost of each service, leading to a total of \$122,438.

Ken Kline arrived at 6:09 p.m.

Ripley talked about the request to commit \$100,000 of DDA fund balance for engineering, and possible funding sources for the project after engineering is complete. He spoke briefly about ARPA funds received by the city, and the city's request for additional funds from the county's ARPA funds.

Joe Ahern arrived at 6:12 p.m.

Discussion followed about the county's methods for distributing ARPA funds. Ripley noted an initial motion to give more than \$500,000 to the city of Alma failed. Discussion returned to the downtown projects and how much progress could be made with funds available as well as details of the engineering proposal.

Shafley asked if Ripley had a priority list for the downtown lots and alleys. Ripley said Lot 3 and a nearby catch basin would need to be priority due to the condition. Following that, Lot 1, Lot 2 and the alley or Lot 6 and the E-W alley. Lot 7 is in acceptable condition and can be delayed for a short time. Brief discussion followed.

Motion by Shafley, seconded by Gallagher, to allocate \$100,000 of the Downtown Development Authority Fund Balance to design/engineering services for downtown parking lot, alley, and drainage improvements. Motion carried.

Ripley thanked members and explained he is hoping to have the project presented to the City Commission for approval at their next meeting.

Trash Receptacles

Ripley presented options for downtown trash receptacles and said prices have been updated and confirmed. Ripley also noted collection of trash from 24 receptacles has been included in the new solid waste collection contract with Granger Waste Services.

Discussion followed about anchoring the receptacles and the advantages and disadvantages of each of the proposed options.

Ripley explained \$30,000 had been budgeted for the downtown tree study and receptacles. As the tree study is only expected to cost \$2,500, there should be enough budgeted to cover 24 receptacles.

Discussion followed about purchasing extras to have on hand for back up situations.

Motion by Shafley, seconded by Kline, to recommend to the City Commission purchase of 28 grey "Arwin" trash receptacles with domed lids from Barco Products at a base cost of \$398.85 each. Motion carried.

Ripley provided a status update on the tree study. He indicated Professor Downtin expects to have a rough draft plan provided by the end of next week.

Discussion followed about implementation of the plan, the number of tree boxes, trees on the west side of Superior Street, and the honey locust trees.

Ripley noted the next meeting is scheduled for May 12, 2022.

Discussion followed on plans for the Highland Festival.

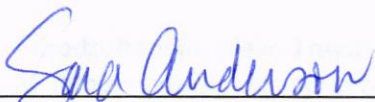
Ken Solomon spoke briefly about the Saginaw DDA's addition of a student to their Board. Members agreed adding a college student and/or a high school student would be helpful. Ripley agreed to check on the possibilities. Discussion followed.

Additional discussion followed about trains.

Greg Mapes arrived at 6:49 p.m.

Ripley told members about attending a recent farm market meeting. Discussion followed about farm market locations. Additional discussion followed about adding historical aspects of the city to the downtown area, including murals, plaques, and information stations.

Motion by Solomon, seconded by Shafley, to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m. Motion carried.



Sara Anderson, Alma City Clerk

Date of Approval: July 27, 2022