

Munising Downtown Development Authority  
Minutes of Meeting  
August 1, 2018

**Members Present:** Dale Immel, Rod DesJardins, Travis Cross, Debbie Nedeau, Tom Hall, Rick Bowerman, Donna Grahovac, Jackie Reynolds

**Members Absent:** Pat Gariepy (e)

**Others Present:** Kathy Reynolds, Pat Sanderson, Ben Schimpf, Matt Treado

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Dale Immel at 8 am.

**Approval of Agenda:** Rod made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, Debbie seconded. **The motion passed.**

**Public Comment:** Matt Treado: M28 Water Project/Streetscape Update  
and USDA RD Engineering Agreement – DDA Award Recommendation

The board received a copy of a USDA letter dated 4/13/18 to The City re: the 2020 M28 project and UPEA. Matt reported on the approval of the \$4.6 million loan to the City. Matt and Devin continue to search out and apply for additional grants. A USDA grant will not be available for this portion of the project. A TAP grant has been applied for, which is a \$1.6 million grant funding match for the water/sewer portion. The project will include 95 historic light poles and green space to extend the downtown feel to the M28 corridor. Matt said we are still hoping for some key infrastructure grant funding from MEDC. Devin is heading this up and he and Kathy are lobbying with state officials. The third-party analysis of road safety for Munising shows there should be a roundabout at the M28/H58 intersection. We are hoping for special MDOT funding to finance the roundabout, which will cost approximately \$1 million. Devin stated that a current bond that the City has will be paid off in 2019 and a new bond for this 2020 project will basically replace it. The entire project is expected to cost approximately \$10 million, costing the City \$4.6 million. Matt said there should be more information available later this month and encouraged everyone to continue to lobby our representatives for funding options. Matt stated that Devin suggested having the DDA recommend to the City Commission to continue with the contract with UPEA for the 2020 project. Dale asked if the City Commission is looking to the DDA for any funding support for the project. Rod stated that the DDA has paid for the conceptual work and this is a City water/sewer project and is the City's project. The DDA is not being asked to commit any funds. Any beautification aspects and sidewalks would be covered by grant funding. Devin stated that the contract with UPEA has been reviewed by USDA. Rick made a motion for the DDA to endorsement the City Commission to enter into the contract with UPEA for the 2020 M28 project, Debbie seconded. **The motion passed.**

**Approval of Meeting Minutes for July 18, 2018:** Rod made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Debbie seconded. **The motion passed.**

**Approval of Bills for Payment:**

a. Kathy Reynolds	Cell Phone Data Pkg.	\$50.00
b. GMBPCD	2018 Summer Kiosk Worker	\$2,000.00

Rod made a motion to approve the bills for payment, Debbie seconded. **The motion passed.**

**Budget:** No action needed or taken on the budget. Kathy reported that all year-end revisions were done with Julie.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

**a. DDA Rebranding:** Kathy discussed the Main St Training she has been involved with the last few years and the fact that many people do not know what a DDA is or does. She said an increase in social media presence has helped and she will bring other ideas to future meetings. Devin asked if community outreach would be involved. He stated that they see at City Hall that residents living in the DDA do not understand and expect additional services, as they believe that are paying extra DDA taxes. Dale said we need to explain what a DDA is and does to the public, but it needs to be our message, done our way, not someone else's interpretation.

**Other Business:** None

**Executive Director's Update/Partnership Update:** Kathy said there will be a deposit in the DDA account for \$5,776. This is RPI funding received from CUPPAD to be used for events and facades. Kathy also reported that the Art in the Alley is being very well cared for; there have been no incidents in the alley. On August 10 we will be holding an Art Chalk project with Alger Parks and Rec in the alley. There will be a Business After Hours event held in mid-September to celebrate and showcase Art in the Alley. The installment will be removed in mid to late October. Kathy and Ben are going to Grand Marais tomorrow to discuss an art project there with some of the grant funding that is available for the county. Dale asked about the "One Word Project" mural recently done in Manistique. Kathy explained that she was approached about the project and it is very expensive and the organization wants "ownership" of the mural on the side of someone's building. She felt that funding could be better spent and make a bigger impact across the area with other projects. When asked about the Hanley Airfield, Kathy explained that the land swaps are still not complete. Hiawatha National Forest and the US Attorney General's office are still working on paperwork and approvals. Kathy has had discussions with various political offices to try and get the project moving.

**City Manager's Report:** Devin reported that the H58 project is slightly behind schedule and they will not be paving until at least next week. They hope to have things wrapped up and the road open by August 22. The City has purchased an AMZ machine to fill cracks and potholes on the downtown streets. They are also currently working on a new website.

**Round Table:** Rod mentioned the City Commission will be considering a resolution to support restoring maintenance funding for the National Park system, this is strictly for maintenance. The National Parks, include Pictured Rocks, have millions of dollars in deferred maintenance issues.

**Adjournment:** Rick made a motion, Debbie seconded to adjourn at 8:48am. **The motion passed.**

**Next meeting:** August 15, 2018