

**STOCKBRIDGE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes – 115 East Elizabeth Street – Council Room**  
**Thursday, April 19, 2007 – 7:00 pm**  
**Minutes**

**7:00 CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIR JODY LEATHERBERRY**

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Chair Jody Leatherberry, Treasurer Scott Spadafore; Directors Dr. Anne Hale, Doug Mills, Matt Severson Village President Tom Ford  
**Absent:** Secretary Tom Lovachis, Director Annabell Howard  
**Also present** interested citizens

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Tom Lovachis has requested an additional 30 days to decide whether he wishes to be appointed for another term of office.

**OATH OF OFFICE** –Village Clerk Linda Dancer swore into office Scott Spadafore. (Enter Tom Lovachis 7:08 p.m.)

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS** – Jody Leatherberry has requested to step down as chairman and wishes to place a **Motion** Jody Leatherberry, **support** Scott Spadafore to nominate Dr. Anne Hale as Chairperson – being no further nominations – verbal motion; motion carried.

**Motion** Doug Mills, **support** Scott Spadafore to nominate Jody Leatherberry as Vice-Chair – being no further nominations – verbal motion; motion carried.

**Motion** Matt Severson, **support** Doug Mills to nominate Scott Spadafore as Treasurer – being no further nominations – verbal motion; motion carried.

**Motion** Jody Leatherberry, **support** Scott Spadafore to nominate Annabell Howard as Secretary – being no further nominations – verbal motion; motion carried.

All new offices will become effective at the close of the April regular meeting.

**7:11 p.m.**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – **Motion** Anne Hale, **support** Tom Ford to approve the agenda as amended – no discussion; verbal motion carried.

**MINUTES OF MARCH 15, 2007** - **Motion** Matt Severson, **support** Anne Hale to accept minutes of March 15, 2007 as amended – discussion; verbal motion carried.

**FINANCIAL/TREASURER'S REPORT – Scott Spadafore** reported and explained the report. Jody Leatherberry spoke with Village Treasurer Beth Flynn and confirmed the 18,000 plus figure in the budget was a carryover from last year.

- **Invoices/Treasurer Report - Motion** Jody Leatherberry, **second** Anne Hale to pay invoices in the amount of \$1,122.57 and approve Treasurer's Report as submitted – discussion **motion amended** Jody Leatherberry, **support** Anne Hale to approve invoices less the \$3.07 penalty from the Town Crier for an amount of \$1,119.50 – discussion; verbal motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS –** Committees that met will be reported later in agenda

**PUBLIC COMMENT –** None

**CORRESPONDANCE –** Reviewed and discussed.

**VILLAGE COUNCIL REPORT –** Tom Ford reported that several Resolutions were adopted including the appointment of Reid Charles as the Interim Administrator. Reid brings with him 40 years of municipal experience. First priority is to work on the budget. The question was asked regarding background checks. President Ford indicated that all employees go through a background check before hiring.

**OLD BUSINESS –**

- **Chamber of Commerce –** Donna Lippens gave a presentation regarding the services of the Chamber including A Day in the Village. DDA and Chamber representative Lippens discussed the \$2,500 advertising dollars that were given by the DDA last year and tagged with other businesses. Clarification was given that money given by the DDA cannot be used in conjunction with other businesses. Chamber assured DDA that their advertising dollars for A Day in the Village would not include any other business tagged onto the ads.

**Motion** Jody Leatherberry, **support** Matt Severson to support the Chamber of Commerce "A Day in the Village" by giving \$2,500 toward advertising the event and no other businesses can be tagged on the advertisements – discussion; verbal motion carried. (Enter Annabell Howard 7:43 p.m.)

Village Clerk Linda Dancer took a moment to swear Annabell Howard in for another term on the SDDA.

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- **Roger Mack Opinion** – DDA will need to pay \$135,781 in back captured school tax. State agreed they had made a mistake when they did the original calculation. This will also be the approximate number for the 2005 over capture amount. Roger Mack will be contacted to confirm whether the \$135,781 includes the \$16,000 already paid. Place as Old Business item #1 for the May meeting.
- **Project List** – Need to conduct a type of survey on people driving through downtown. Suggestion to use MSU students. Jody talked with F&V to facilitate projects, locate grants, etc. Quote from F&V was \$8,500.

**Motion** Tom Lovachis, **support** Jody Leatherberry to move forward with F&V and pay \$8,500 for planning of the projects – members concerned that F&V is doing too much of the work; would like to bids from other firms – **Roll Call Vote:** Yeas – Anne Hale, Tom Lovachis, Tom Ford, Jody Leatherberry; Nays – Annabell Howard, Doug Mills, Matt Severson, Scott Spadafore – motion defeated 4-4 vote. Executive Board will pursue bids from local firms and report back to DDA with findings. This condition will be done based on the opinion that the DDA will make a solid selection of a firm at the May meeting.

- **Administrative Options** – No further need for discussion

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **Sue Pigg from EDC/MSU Extension**– Sue handed out literature and gave a brief presentation outlining some of the programs she works with to assist municipalities.
- **SAESA** – Paul Risner, representing SAESA, has requested the SDDA return monies captured from SAESA. Attorney Gormley indicated it is not a simple task. Request will be taken to the Executive Board meeting May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. for research.
- **Sam Mocerri** – Sam gave a brief presentation on the proposed downtown parking changes the Village Council will be reviewing. Sam talked with the downtown businesses on Main Street and tried to come up with a plan that would work for all. Changes will include unified signage, 2 hour parking, change in handicap parking locations, addition of loading and unloading zones. Overnight parking was also discussed regarding the problems with downtown housing and lack of available parking for tenants.

**PUBLIC COMMENT –**

- Howell Wynne suggested the DDA work with local contractors to implement their project list which would not require a lot of money for the planning process.
- Charles Minix asked questions as to the Interim Administrator, and what his responsibilities are, and why interested local individuals were not considered.
- Paul Risner requested updated maps of the Village be looked into. It is very difficult for emergency services to respond within the Village limits when maps do not have current streets or house numbers listed.

**SDDA ATTORNEY – No Report**

**Motion** Scott Spadafore, **support** Annabell Howard to go into closed session to discuss the acquisition of real property; **Roll Call Vote: Yeas –** Tom Lovachis, Tom Ford, Annabell Howard, Doug Mills, Matt Severson, Scott Spadafore, Anne Hale, Jody Leatherberry; **Nays –** None; roll call vote carries 8-0.

**Motion** Doug Mills, **support** Matt Severson to close the closed session and reopen the regular meeting – discussion; verbal motion carried.

**10:35 p.m. ADJOURNMENT – Motion** Annabell Howard, **support** Matt Severson to adjourn; verbal motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Dancer, Clerk

Tom Lovachis, Secretary