

Minutes

Regular Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

September 4, 2024 7:00 PM

Chairperson Roo

at the Almont

Village Hall, located at 817 N. Main Street, Almont, Michigan.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Board members Present: Roosa, Miller, S Schneider, M Schneider, Boos, Glasser

Board members Absent: None

Staff Present: Angela Edwards, Executive Director

Guests Present: 11

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA:

Additions:

Almont Township 2024 Summer Property Tax Bill for 202 S. Bristol Street

Added to Bills Payable

Almont Township 2024 Summer Property Tax Bill for 117 School Street

Added to Bills Payable

Michigan Downtown Association Membership Dues

Added to Bills Payable

COMMUNICATIONS:

Dear Editor Letter from Almont Community Historical Society President, Mr. James Wade Sr., published in the Tri City Times on August 21, 2024.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Agenda Items:

Kim Schall, Almont Township resident questioned the purchase of 117 school St. Property for \$100,000. Schall asked where the DDA got the funds to purchase said property. Additionally, Schall stated the property was outside the DDA district and it was a conflict of interest for H. Miller to broker the purchase. Schall also believed Chairperson A. Roosa could not sign the purchase documents due to his employment as a financial advisor.

M. Schneider commented that the matter regarding H. Miller brokering the purchase of 117 School Street and whether there was a conflict of interest had been addressed in previous board meetings. M. Schneider stated the board had sought legal advice from

their attorney and it was their attorney's legal opinion that there was no conflict of interest due to the fact that H Miller never voted on any items for the purchase of said property. Chairperson A. Roosa stated that as a financial advisor he can not be on bank accounts however, he is able to sign contracts.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

M. Schneider moved, A. Glasser supported
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of June 26, 2024 regular meeting minutes:
 S. Schneider moved to approve with amendments:

Date	Vendor	Inv #	Total
6/27/2024	Jordano Graphics - Social District Stickers	27102	\$1,140.00
7/1/2024	Almont Twp Summer Tax Bill (117 School St-202 S. Bristol St)		\$50.25
7/1/2024	Almont Village Summer Tax Bill (117 School St)		\$434.86
7/3/2024	Construction Code Authority		\$61.00
7/8/2024	DTE - First Congregational Church		\$84.19
7/8/2024	Landscape Direct	75682	\$240.03
Total:			\$2,010.33

\$1,525.22

APPROVAL OF BILLS PAYABLE:

Discussion: Board discussion of the tax bills for 117 School Street and 202 S. Bristol Street property properties, including confusion over why property taxes are being charged and who is responsible. Director Edwards to seek clarification from Village Treasurer.

H. Miller supported
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Date	Vendor	Inv #	Total
7/26/2024	Shelby Moore- Car Show Dash Magnets	447	\$450.00
7/31/2024	American Tree		\$700.00
8/4/2024	DTE - First Congregational Church		\$84.54
7/1/2024	Almont Twp Summer Tax Bill (202 S. Bristol Street)		\$50.25
7/1/2024	Almont Twp Summer Tax Bill (117 School St)		\$434.86
9/4/2024	Michigan Downtown Association- Membership Dues	3525	\$350.00
Total:			\$2,069.65

APPROVAL OF BILLS PAYABLE:

Discussion: Director A. Edwards clarified why the Board was responsible for Almont Township summer attacks tax bills of 202 S Bristol Street and 117 School Street. A. Edwards stated these tax bills were from the previous year and prior to said properties having ownership transferred to the DDA. H. Miller noted that the Board will be exempt from paying tax bills on these properties beginning in 2025.

M. Schneider moved to approve the Bills Payable in the amount of \$2,069.65, K. Boos supported.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

TREASURER'S REPORT

A. July Revenue & Expenditure Report

M. Schneider moved, K. Boos supported.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

B. July Check Disbursement

M. Schneider moved, A. Glasser supported.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS

A. DPW July 2024 Report: Included in board packet. No further discussion.

B. Directors Report July 2024: Summary includes extensive Heritage Festival preparations with the Village Manager and other departments, working with DPW to repair fountain in pocket park, monthly meeting with Lapeer County DDA directors MDA director and LDC director, update on social district etiquette signage, update on 2-hour parking signage, and update on Lapeer county wide day video.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Finance

1. Façade Grant Application

Facts: The Village Shirt Company has submitted a Façade Grant Application for their sign at 114 S. Main Street, in the amount of \$417.16 and has provided an Excel Spreadsheet (included in Board Packet) for clarification on the line item questioned at the June 26, 2024 meeting.

Discussion: Chairperson A. Roosa noted there are no updates to the Village Shirt Company's application from July's meeting. The line item previously questioned at the June 26, 2024 meeting still remains abbreviated without a description. The board discussed various options as to how to proceed with said application and agreed to have Director Edwards reach out one more time to the **businesses business** owner requesting a detailed invoice. Director Edwards is to also communicate that if requested documents are not provided then business owner can resubmit application at a later date or application will be approved in the amount of \$185.50.

2. Façade Grant Application

Facts: The owner of 780 N. Van Dyke has submitted a Façade Grant Application for improvements made at 780 N. Van Dyke (4 suites included).

Discussion: Director Edwards noted more detailed information is needed on the invoices submitted by the applicant. The Board agreed to table this matter in order to allow the business owner to re-submit invoices with detailed line items.

DISCUSSION

- A. **Jeep/ Cruise/ Bike Night- Sign-Up Genius:** Director Edwards reminded the Board there is one event remaining.
- B. **Merchant Trick or Treat:** Director Edwards noted last years Merchant Trick or Treat event consisted of a skeleton contest and asked if the Board would like to change anything. No suggestions were made by the Board.
- C. **117 School Street Update:** Director Edwards informed the board and members of the public that prior to the purchase of 117 School Street the Village, who oversees the DDA's finances, advised Edwards that the DDA's fund balance was excessively high. Furthermore, adding that funds needed to be spent or the DDA would be at risk of being found to be fiscally irresponsible of tax payer dollars. Director Edwards added that the DDA has the ability to buy property outside DDA boundaries, per DDA laws and the legal opinion of the DDA's attorney.

- D. **Small Business Saturday:** Discussion on repeating last year's punch card initiative and coordinating with businesses in the DDA district.
- E. **Fountain Cover:** Discussion on replacing the fountain cover, which is in poor condition. Suggestions included using PVC piping to frame, pool pillows and shrink wrapping.

OLD BUSINESS: None

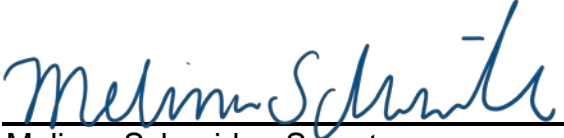
PUBLIC COMMENTS (NON AGENDA ITEMS): None

BOARD QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm by Chairperson Roosa.


Melissa Schneider, Secretary