

**Van Buren Charter Township  
Downtown Development Authority**

**Tuesday, February 26, 2013**

Director Bird called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Director Baskin, Director Bird, Director Laginess, Director Miller, Director Richter, and Supervisor Combs

**Members Absent:** Chairperson Dolph (excused), Vice Chair Atchinson (excused), Secretary Zoller (excused), Director Bechtel (excused), and Director Blank (excused)

**Others in Attendance:** DDA Executive Director Ireland, Recording Secretary LaMothe, and an audience of three.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion Combs, support Laginess to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion Richter, support Baskin to approve the DDA Minutes of Tuesday, January 22, 2013 as presented. Motion carried.

DDA Executive Director Ireland introduced Interim Planning and Economic Development Director Mullen and shared about his extensive experience, education and background he brings to this new position.

**REPORTS**

**Communication Associates:**

DDA members reviewed information regarding billboard advertising opportunities and the desire, upon approval of a location and time period, to have Communication Associates prepare a presentation of potential artwork for the billboard.

Motion Laginess, support Baskin to approve use of billboard advertising preference for #3043 as choice #1 and #3536 as choice #2 for a 12 week time period as presented on the detailed chart presented. Motion carried.

**PRESENTATION**

**Old Glory Flags:**

Rich Keenan from Old Glory Flags gave a thorough presentation regarding the light poles and issues that have presented themselves. He presented a lower-cost solution to the need for repair to many of the posts. By utilizing fiberglass arms, the arms would be less expensive (\$65-100 per arm instead of up to \$200 per arm) and stronger than aluminum replacement, as well as put less stress on the banners because they would move less in the wind. Keenan investigated and found that Van Buren Steel could produce a mounting plate molding that would cost approximately \$12 per fixture to mount the fiberglass posts to the poles.

DDA Executive Director Ireland will obtain a quote regarding arms for the light poles.

**REPORTS , continued**

**McKenna:**

Sally Hodges from McKenna provided a report on the status of Ecorse and Belleville Road intersection landscape improvements that will begin in the spring.

**Director's Report:**

DDA Executive Director Ireland provided an update on the status of outstanding projects including: sidewalks,

lightpoles and banners, emergency sirens, the Van Buren Township Hall roof, Aerotropolis, Personal Property Tax implications, Public Safety Day, determining fencing ownership along Belleville Road between Sunrise Drive and Harmony Lane, and streetscape projects including trees, curbs, and fencing.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Motion Laginess, support Miller to approve support for Public Safety Day 2013 with expenses not to exceed \$10,000. Motion carried.

**NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Laginess, Bird and Baskin will bring forth a Performance Review/Appraisal Process of DDA Executive Director for the Board to review.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion Combs, seconded Baskin to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karin E. LaMothe  
Recording Secretary