

TOWN OF PORTER
Redevelopment Commission
303 Franklin Street
June 27, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: President Brian Finley, Russ Erwin, David Phillips, and Don Craft showed up after roll call.

Absent: Vice President Allison Hultman

Also Present: Attorney Laura Frost, Director of Development Michael Barry, Public Works Superintendent James Spanier, and Secretary Karen Spanier

Approval of Minutes

Dave Phillips made the motion to approve the May 23, 2023 meeting minutes, with Russ Erwin making the second.

Motion carried 3-0.

Consideration of Claims

Motion to approve the June claims was made by Dave Phillips. Russ Erwin made the second.

Motion carried 3-0.

Audience Participation

None

Reports

Michael Barry had nothing to report.

Attorney Frost has two things to report. There were some changes the legislature made that affect the RDC. There was a change to President and Vice President Appointments that is effective July 1, 2023. The appointments have to be done by different appointing authorities; example if the President is a council president appointment, the vice president needs to be a council appointment.

The other change starting January 1, 2024 state that by December 1st of each year you will have create a spending plan for following year. So by December 1, 2024 you will have to create a spending plan for 2025 and you will be limited to spend what is in that plan. You will probably get some guidance coming down from State Board of Accounts before you have to do it.

Old Business

Downtown Street Light Quotes- PW Superintendent Spanier commented he sent out four requests for quotes and only received one back from Hawk Enterprises. Circle R Electric & Ellis Electric needed more time. He never received anything back from Current Electric.

At 6:06 p.m. Quotes were opened.

Hawk Enterprises quote was \$149,150.00 substantially more than the original proposal.

Russ Erwin made a motion to reject Hawk Enterprises quote, Dave Phillips making the second.

Motion carried 4-0.

Dave Phillips made a motion to request for quotes again not to exceed \$150,000.00, Russ Erwin making the second.

Motion carried 4-0.

New Business

Mnoke Prairie Trail Joint Grant Application-Mike Barry said the Mnoke Prairie Trail is part of the Marquette Greenway Trail we have been talking to Burns Harbor about grant applications. The best way to do it is a joint application. He is looking for approval from RDC to do a joint grant application with Burns Harbor, where their consultant will put application together and we don't have to pay for it. The trail estimate is about 1 million dollars with an 80/20 match. Our cost would be about \$250,000. Burns Harbor will write grant. Corrine Peffers, Burns Harbor assistant Clerk and possible new Porter Clerk next year, is familiar with this and how to handle the funding with the two towns.

Dave Phillips made a motion to do a joint grant application with Burns Harbor for Mnoke Prairie Trail, Russ Erwin making the second.
Motion carried 4-0.

Commission Comments

None

Adjournment

Dave Phillips made the motion to adjourn.
Meeting Adjourned at 6:10 p.m.



Brian Finley, President



Allison Hultman, Vice-President



David Phillips, Member



Russ Erwin, Secretary



Don Craft, Member

Attest: 
Karen Spanier