

Charter Township of Lyon

Downtown Development Authority (DDA)

Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2010

Chairman Jay Howie called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members present included Lannie Young, Tamra Ward, Bryan Wallace, Tim Miner, John Bell, Jay Howie

Members absent were Mark Mitra, Vince DeAngelis, Troy Powe

Others present included Chris Doozan, Interim DDA Director, Phil Seymour, Township Attorney, Eric Lord, Township Engineer, Courtney Piotrowski, McKenna Associates

18 Guests

**Public Discussion, non-agenda items.** No discussion.

**Approval of Agenda.** Tamra Ward made a motion to approve the agenda with items removed. Bryan Wallace offered support for the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**Approval of Consent Agenda.** Lannie Young made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with removal of the McKenna invoice in the amount of \$390.00, and this invoice be added to the agenda and considered later in the meeting. Bryan Wallace offered support for the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Action Items:

**DDA Administrator/Economic Development Coordinator.** Michelle Aniol introduced herself to the DDA Members as well as the audience. Ms. Aniol gave a brief introduction of her background and stated what her responsibilities would be. They include improving communications, managing DDA projects and keeping Economic Development on track.

Jay Howie explained that Ms. Aniol will be employed part time, up to 35 hours per week, at a pay rate of \$20.00 per hour.

Lannie Young stated that the work involved has become overwhelming. In addition to John Bell and Jay Eldridge who are volunteers and Jay Howie who has his own personal business to maintain, Michelle is very much needed.

Lannie Young explained that he spoke to the RCOC and the areas that are called Lyon Center Drive are the areas that have been dedicated to the County. Those areas are currently called Lyon Center Drive. On their documents they are called east and west even though the signs do not reflect that. The road near the Kojaian development was named and submitted by the property owners. On the other side, the apartment complex submitted the name because they were the owners and they named it New Hudson Drive.

Mr. Young stated that there are no other names out there and the Lyon Center Drive that exists today does not encompass the southwest section nor does it encompass the yet to be built southeast section.

Lisa Brooks, 57111 Cash Street stated that she just moved here a few months ago and loved living on a little street and very shortly after moving in realized this was no longer the case. Ms. Brooks continued that she doesn't understand how this has become such a big issue. It looks as if it is a battle between a family name and the Township. Ms. Brooks also feels she does not understand so much of what is going on and is not getting answers to her questions.

Jay Howie stated that there are answers for all the questions but he is not sure this is the time for those answers.

Lannie Young explained that there is a motion on the floor and suggested that all who want to talk speak briefly and then the question be called.

Laura Zarelli, 50757 Cash stated that she works all the time and does not have time to speak to anyone regarding the project. She has the time now and would like an explanation as to the promises that were made in the spring and now have all changed.

Jay Howie explained that underground electric was originally planned but not everyone signed the easements for the underground. By doing this they made the decision to take the underground away from all their neighbors because it can't be put at one house and not the next. One of the remaining unsigned grading easements was signed yesterday but the driveways have already been started.

Mr. Howie explained that November 15<sup>th</sup> the asphalt plant closes down. If the work is not done by then it will remain like it is through the winter and that is not at all acceptable. This is not a simple project and cannot be held up; you pass the problems by and keep on going. The dirt was on the job for the berm but has been hauled off and although he agrees that it is not fair to the neighbors who signed, the opportunity has passed us by.

Dan Cole, 57137 Cash asked if they will be getting trees to block the street and was told by Mr. Howie that there will be trees.

Jay Howie stated that there is a motion to adopt the resolution and it has support and requested a roll call vote at this time.

**Roll Call Vote:**            **Ayes:** Tim Miner, Tamra Ward, John Bell, Lannie Young,

John Bell made a motion to request Giffels Webster to prepare and submit the MDOT Transportation Enhancement (TE) Grant Application as laid out in the letter submitted September 9, 2010. Bryan Wallace offered support for the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Tim Miner, John Bell, Bryan Wallace, Lannie Young, Jay Howie, Tamra Ward, Tim Miner  
Nays: None

**Wayfinding Project – Phase II Proposal from McKenna.** Lannie Young explained that he is going through the budget right now and because of delinquent properties that have come due now the Township has to come up with \$1,200,000 and possibly another \$300,000. In going through all the delinquent properties in 2008 and 2009 which could potentially become delinquent in 2010 and there are 6.6 million dollars worth of properties.

Mr. Young stated that we are a year ahead of all of this and working through it but believes it is a good idea to hold off on any spending that does not have to be done right now while he is working through the budget process. The wayfinding is a good project and the work that has gone into it is not wasted.

Jay Howie noted that he has asked all of the professionals to put everything on hold for thirty days until everything is looked at.

**Lannie Young made a motion to table the Wayfinding Project for at least thirty days. John Bell offered support for the motion, which was approved unanimously.**

**Sandblasting of BKS Wall.** Jay explained that when the Champion Building came down a wall was left that needs to be taken care of.

**Tim Miner made a motion to approve up to \$2500.00 for sandblasting the wall of the BKS building. John Bell offered support for the motion, which was approved unanimously.**

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Lannie Young, Bryan Wallace, Tamra Ward, Jay Howie, Tim Miner, John Bell  
Nays: None

#### Reports/Announcements

**Invoice from Abruzzi Construction related to Champion Building. - \$4,455.00.** Jay Howie explained that the building that was taken down had three walls and a roof. A wall that hadn't been open in many years with many problems was then opened to the elements. At this point it had to be immediately repaired.

**Tim Miner made a motion to approve \$4,455.00 to Abruzzi Construction Company for repair to the BKS Collision Building wall. Bryan Wallace offered support for the motion which was approved unanimously.**

