

TOWN OF PORTER
Redevelopment Commission
303 Franklin Street
December 23, 2024

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: President Allison Hultman, Vice President William Lopez, Laura Madigan, Russ Erwin, Jamie Hogan, and Beth Mehling

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

Approval of Minutes

Jamie Hogan made the motion to approve November 21, 2024, meeting minutes, with William Lopez making the second.

Motion carried 5-0.

Consideration of Claims

Laura Madigan made a motion to approve claims for December as presented, with Russ Erwin making the second.

Motion carried 5-0.

Audience Participation

Reports

Building Commissioner/Director of Development

Barry comments he was sent the plans for the Mnolke Prairie Trail and noticed a typo on the cover where it calls Porter County signatures not Town of Porter. We have a meeting with Burns Harbor and National Lakeshore on January 7th to go over the plans and drawings. Then we can start the process for Environmental Permit. He sent all paperwork to Next Level Trails today.

Barry announced the Waverly Rd Bridge Project is complete at the Little Calumet River. The next project is Bridge over 94 and that section will have a part of the Trail on it. They are still undecided when that project will start. We are still working on design, as we do not want to go through National Lakeshore property.

Hultman asks how long Waverly will be closed when they start that. Barry states he doesn't know, but probably longer than last time.

Attorney Report

Nothing

Old Business

Global Engineering Proposal

Barry said he has checked other locations for signage and determined there are not any better locations than the one we originally picked out. He also stated we need to have a survey completed prior to applying for a permit. The proposal is not to exceed \$7,000.00, that is \$3,500 per sign per location.

Laura Madigan made a motion to approve a not to exceed the amount of \$7,000.00 for Global Engineering for the surveying of two sign locations on 12 and 49. Jamie Hogan made the second. Motion carried 5-0.

Façade Grant

Hultman mentions there were a few minor adjustments to the Grant Application at the last meeting, and that Attorney Frost was going to review.

Attorney Frost states the issue is whether you can use TIF proceeds for Cash Grants to private owners. The statute has a list of what you can use TIF funds for, it does not appear to include a direct Cash Grant. This does not mean you could not use other Funds such as LIT or something else. She can explore more if the Commission wants her to pursue this matter.

Madigan said she reviewed but has not taken enough time to fully review it.

Hultman states we can review it again at a later time.

New Business

Commission Comments

Adjournment

Laura Madigan made the motion to adjourn.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Approved the 28th day of January, 2025.

REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF PORTER

/s/ Allison Hultman

/s/ William Lopez, Vice President

/s/ Russ Erwin, Secretary

/s/ Jamie Hogan, Member

/s/ Peter Sawochka-Dalton

ATTEST: /s/ Karen Spanier, Recording Secretary