

City of La Porte Business Improvement District
City Hall
La Porte, IN 46350
January 9, 2023

President Thaddeus Cutler called the January 9, 2023 meeting of the City of La Porte Business Improvement District Board to order at 5:00 p.m. The meeting was held at City Hall at 801 Michigan Avenue, La Porte, IN. Roll call of members of the Board was shown to be present or absent as follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brad Adamsky, Robin Clark, Thaddeus Cutler, Courtney Dickman, Jessica Granger, Jim Kaminski, John Spiggle, Tommy Viere, Lizz Ward, Clinton Worthington

MEMBERS ABSENT:

GUESTS PRESENT: Councilwoman Laura Cutler, Amy Feikes, Charity Hlavsa, Craig Phillips

MINUTES: President Cutler asked if there were any additions or corrections to be made on the December 12 minutes. Ward mentioned that Amy Feikes is mentioned two different ways. Ward made a motion to approve the December 12 meeting minutes and Adamsky seconded. There being no further discussion; motion carried.

GUEST COMMENTS: There were no comments from guests.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance: Spiggle reported for the month of December there was \$18,095 in miscellaneous from the Mucho Mas fence. The insurance was deposited into our account so we had an offset for the repair. \$39,616 was allocated from the November property tax payments, but the books have not been balanced so we do not know the interest income yet. The only other expenses were for Jongkind for secretarial services and Mofield Properties for wrapping up the seasonal work.

There is \$141,700 in the bank. For 2023, the board was appropriated \$135,000 in the budget.

That concludes the 2022 budget.

Viere asked about leveraging a portion of the BID money and placing it in a short-term investment to help fund the long-term design plan. Spiggle explained that it is a possibility, but he is not sure what amount we could comfortably contribute.

Viere also asked if there are grants available to help fund the BID and Phillips explained that the way the board is funded restricts what specific projects they can apply for.

There were two claims. One was from Emcor-Hyre for repairing the streetlight outlets in the amount of \$3,0278.10 and the other was from Mofield Properties for snow removal before Christmas in the amount of \$4,860. Worthington motioned to approve the claims and Ward seconded. There being no further discussion; motion carried.

Maintenance: Worthington mentioned that there was some snow removal around Christmas.

Phillips clarified that on the handout from last month “wreaths” meant outlets and “lamps” meant lights. There are about 10 or 11 outlets that need repaired.

Another planter was hit by an impaired driver; Phillips will keep the board up to date on insurance.

Leaf & Snow Removal: There was no report.

Flowers: There was no report.

Trees: There was no report.

Long-Term Planning: Kaminski mentioned that there will be a presentation about the streetscape plan in the future when Phillips believes it is ready. Cutler asked Kaminski to include Dickman in any communications about long-term planning.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was a question about the symphony banners for downtown. Since Tim King has previously asked for approval, he will not need to attend another BID meeting regarding the banners. The La Porte High School music department will be displayed with the symphony from February 16th to March 31st. Phillips has not communicated with the music director to figure out how the numbers will work.

NEW BUSINESS:

Phillips received a request from the schools to have fall sports banners displayed for 12 weeks during the Sunflower Fair. It was noted all other groups get six weeks. President Cutler suggested giving them August 16th to September 30th and leaving the October to November slot open for veteran banners.

Phillips will reach out to the new athletic director and report back.

President Cutler opened the floor for the 2023 Board Position elections. Adamsky motioned to adopt the current sleight of officers and Kaminski seconded. There being no further discussion; motion passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OBSERVATIONS:

Adamsky pointed out that if the February 16th through March 31st dates work out for the banners, it will be timed really nice.

Adjournment/Next Meeting

There being no further business, Ward entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:31 p.m. and Granger seconded. The next board meeting will be February 13, 2023. ***If unable to attend this meeting, please contact Thaddeus Cutler by email at thaddeus@thaddeusc.com***

Respectfully submitted by: Lindsay Kneifel