



**BROWNSTOWN TOWNSHIP DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2010**

The regular meeting of the Brownstown Township Downtown Development Authority was held on Thursday, March 18, 2010 in the Township Hall, 21313 Telegraph Road, Brownstown, Michigan 48183. The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Chairperson Rybski and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENT:** Rybski, Bielecki, DiMilia, Khan, Matrone, Varady, Vidusic, Willis, and Wright. Also in attendance were Economic Development Manager DiSanto and DDA Attorney Young.

**ABSENT & EXCUSED:** None

**MINUTE APPROVAL:** Motion of Matrone, supported by Bielecki, to approve the Downtown Development Authority minutes of February 18, 2010 as submitted. All voting aye.

**AGENDA APPROVAL:** Motion of Vidusic, supported by Willis, to approve the Downtown Development Authority agenda of March 18, 2010 as submitted. All voting aye.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public comments were received.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**PROJECT UPDATES:** DiSanto provided the following project updates to members.

**TOWNSHIP CAMPUS:** The Township Board concurred with hiring Wade Trim Associates to complete the Township Campus plan and the preliminary design should be complete by next week. DiSanto and Rybski discussed the possibilities of financing Campus Plan improvements with a financial institution who will offer various options before the end of this month.

**BIKE PATH:** The bike path construction documents have been sent to MDOT, MDNR, and Wayne County for approval.

**FAÇADE GRANT:** The Façade Grant will be on the next work session agenda.

**HISTORICAL HOUSE:** The Historical House renovations are near 50% completion. It appears Fine Finishings is doing a nice job and the Historical Society is content with the repairs; they are picking out paint colors, vinyl and things of that nature and the project should probably be complete by mid-April.

**BROWNFIELD – NATIONAL WINE & SPIRITS:** DiSanto met with Steve Null and Tom Wackerman in Lansing two weeks ago. They have received their mega-grant and the first portion of their Brownfield is approved. A meeting is scheduled with the MDNR in two weeks to finalize the remaining portion of the Brownfield Plan.

**STREET PATCHING:** The construction documents, specifications, and the approval to go out to bid, are all completed and will be submitted to Wayne County soon. DiSanto expects the work to begin by the first of June.

**COOL CITIES – DISCUSSION:** Rybski provided information to members regarding the State of Michigan “Cool Cities” initiative and the results of studies completed. It appears that the DDA has been following many of the “cool cities” recommendations for success anyway and she wanted to share their “10 Keys for Success” and ideas for developing Brownstown as a place to bring businesses and people together.

**MARKET STUDY:** DiSanto has received the Market Study draft and will forward it to the sub-committee for their review. It will come back to the DDA for final approval.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**WAYNE COUNTY AUDIT – DISCUSSION:** Much discussion was held regarding the request for DDA Audit by the Office of the Wayne County Prosecutor and DiSanto and Attorney Young brought members up to date with this issue. It appears that Wayne County is looking to lessen their budget deficit by a review of all TIFA’s within the district to make sure they are in complete compliance with their expenditures. Township Auditors Plante and Moran and Patrick Berardo, Bond Counsel, have been consulted and are confident in complete compliance. Both plan to collaborate with the other communities to share their services as well to cut down our obligations to save money. A list is being compiled of DDA projects that have benefited the County from 1993 to the present. So far the DDA has contributed over 12.5 million in direct benefit to Wayne County.

Attorney Young has sent a response to the County and has cooperated by providing the DDA Budgets for 2008, 2009, and 2010. He also asked for clarification under what authority or statute this audit is occurring. No response has been received yet.

**APPROVE ENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT – THRUN LAW FIRM, P.C.:** Motion of Matrone, supported by Bielecki, to approve the Engagement Agreement Letter of Thrun Law Firm, P.C., as submitted, to provide legal services to the Brownstown Downtown Development Authority in respect to the Wayne County Prosecutor’s Office request for financial review. All voting aye.

**DDA ATTORNEY YOUNG – FEBRUARY INVOICE:** Motion of DiMila, supported by Khan, to approve payment to DDA Attorney Young for February 2010 invoice in the amount of \$2,727.00 with funds to come from Account #248.729.810. All voting aye.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** S. Bowman, 18615 Emit Rd

Motion of Vidusic, supported by DiMilia, to adjourn the Downtown Development Authority meeting at 12:37 p.m. All voting aye.

DDA/smk