

Downtown Stratford BIA

Board of Directors Meeting July 25, 2023

6:15 P.M. in-person and via Zoom

MINUTES

Board in Attendance: Stephanie Theodoropolous, Jennifer Birmingham, Kiersten Hatanaka, Carly Douglas, Megan Chisholm, Councillor Burbach

Staff: Jamie Pritchard*

1. Call to Order – Vice-Chair as Chair-Presiding

2. Land Acknowledgement

3. Adopt Agenda for July 25, 2023, Meeting

MOTION: That the July 25, 2023, agenda be adopted as presented, moved by Councillor Burbach, seconded by Kiersten Hatanaka. Carried.

4. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof:

The Municipal Conflict of Interest Act requires any member of a Committee of Council declaring a pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof, where the interest of a member of a Committee of Council has not been disclosed by reason of the member's absence from the meeting, to disclose the interest at the first open meeting attended by the member of a Committee of Council and otherwise comply with the Act.

Name

Item

Nature

None declared July 25, 2023.

5. Adopt Public Minutes of June 27, 2023, Meeting

MOTION: That the public minutes of June 27, 2023, be adopted, moved by Carly Douglas, seconded by Councillor Burbach. Carried.

6. Treasurer Report

Revenue 53%, Expenses 36%. Note: Interest Revenue at 275% of budgeted amount.

7. Council Update

Dan Mathieson appointed as the Chair of the Grand Trunk Committee to steer that project. There will be 13 other members of that Committee. There is an economic development position that would be suitable for a BIA representative. Just one group currently, unknown if there will be working groups added.

New City Interim-CEO in place. Reach out to Councillor Burbach for their contact details.

8. General Manager Report

<General Managers Report to the Board of Directors July 17, 2023>

Strategic Plan meetings are happening – next one is A&E in August.

Digital Downtown Dollar project is a bit behind schedule due to looking into legal review.

MOTION: That the BIA retains Alexandra Bignucolo to review the proposed Digital Downtown Dollars RFQ moved by Jennifer Birmingham, seconded by Carly Douglas. Carried.

The Board agreed to not go through Bids & Tenders at this time but send directly to the six companies that have already been identified as offering these services.

Ontario Street being paved starting at Waterloo Street and heading east until mid to late August. A request to the City about early communication with the BIA so that the businesses can be informed and ready. Also, advance notice regarding any water or electrical disruption that may take place. Huron Street 2022 project topcoat is still to come (same company). Erie Street south of Ontario to West Gore will be resurfaced in 2024.

Recommendation to look at the land between the police station and Chocolate Barr's in 2024. This City-owned space has been de-weeded, but the concrete barriers are not in good condition. An idea was to work with the City on a bike parking/sitting space. ATAC had money in their budget to go towards bike racks. The space is used for snow collection in the winter, so any additions must be moveable to winter storage. Note that the space is not structurally sound for vehicle weight. Public art could be considered for this space.

9. Board Recruitment

One application has been submitted and will go to Council on August 14th, 2023. There is still one board vacancy.

There has been interest in the Marketing Sub-Committee and separate marketing projects.

10. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 6:53 P.M. moved by Kiersten Hatanaka.