

**MINUTES – CITY OF OWOSSO
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
SPECIAL MEETING OF APRIL 12, 2006**

Chairman Wright called the meeting to order at 7:45 a.m.

Roll Call.

Members Present: Chm. Craig Wright, John Oliver, John Hankerd, Mayor Linda Robertson, Barbara Bucsi, William Gilbert, and Cindy Popovitch
Members Absent: Jamie Irish and Jim Howe

Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the meeting of April 5, 2006 were approved
Hankerd/Gilbert m/s/p

Communications: None

Citizen/Member Comments: None

Financial Status. Hathaway distributed a new projected revenue schedule for tax increment financing that shows an \$88,000 increase for 2005-06. This amount is based on the city's bond attorney advising the DDA that the school millage captured for this year pays the bond obligations first before the reimbursements are paid to the school taxing jurisdictions.

Items of Business.

- A. Cool Cities Nomination.** The Board of Directors listened to updates from both the Owosso Community Players and the Shiawassee Arts Council. Phil Hathaway presented four points to consider in weighing the relative merits of the Cool Cities nomination.
- 1) This is not a grant program but a comprehensive effort to make progress for the attraction and retention of urban pioneers to the downtown. The grant is a catalyst to that effort.
 - 2) The State of Michigan recommends that the boundary of the lead applicant include the area of the other applicant to permit access to the "tool box" of grants.
 - 3) A co-application is a state-endorsed alternative.
 - 4) These proposals must demonstrate little reliance on future funding aspirations.

Hathaway proceeded to write 17 characteristics of successful Neighborhoods in Progress programs. Questions from the Board members to each organization focused on adequacy of funding and willingness to cooperate on a combined application. It was explained a week ago that the Arts Council would not participate in a 50/50 application and the Community Players would not agree to a 75/25 application because of the fixed costs of their project.

Member Hankerd moved and Oliver supported the motion to select the Shiawassee Arts Council project for the Phase II plan of an expanded Arts Center together with the stipulation that the Neighborhood boundary must be amended to incorporate the Lebowsky Center.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Oliver, Robertson, Gilbert, Popovitch, and Wright

Nays: Hankerd and Bucsi

Motion Carried 5-2.

- B. Loan to Owosso Brownfield Authority.** In order to proceed with the Capitol Bowl project, the Board elected to advance \$60,000 to the Owosso Brownfield Redevelopment Authority for infrastructure improvements where the new building fronts Washington Street, Jerome Street and the Comstock Center parking lot.

Oliver/Popovitch m/s/p

- C. Ball Street Parking Improvement Project.** With the information at hand on the increased Tax Increment Finance Budget, the purchase and installation of 8 street lights for \$28,000 was approved.
- D. Advertising Invoice.** The DDA's share of the advertising costs for the Armory RFP in the Argus Press at \$146.00 was approved.
Oliver/Popovitch m/s/p
- E. Temporary Walkway at old Hotel site.** The Board will consider the cost of installing a temporary sidewalk, at 132' in length, on the South Washington Street side of the old hotel site. Brick pavers in stock will be used and a 4' wide concrete sidewalk will complete the distance.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m.

Philip B. Hathaway, Secretary-Treasurer