

October 28, 1993

DOWNTOWN IRONWOOD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

A regular meeting of the Downtown Ironwood Development Authority was held on the above date, 12:00 Noon, Towne House Motor Inn, Ironwood, Michigan.

1. Call to Order.

Chairperson Bergquist called the meeting to order at 12:10 P.M.

2. Recording of the Roll.

PRESENT: Murphy, Johnson, Kinnunen, Isakson, Bergquist.

EXCUSED: Butler.

ABSENT: Forslund, Newman, Lorensen.

(Newman arrived at 12:15 P.M. & Lorensen at 12:25 P.M.)

OTHERS

PRESENT: Ironwood Chamber Director William Andresen, Edward Bailey, City Manager.

3. Oath of Office: Curt Isakson.

Oath of Office was administered to Mr. Isakson by Secretary Ziemann. All members welcomed him to the Authority.

4. Consider approval of the September 24, 1993, meeting Minutes.

Motion by Johnson, supported by Murphy. CARRIED. That the September 24, 1993, Minutes be approved as presented.

5. Financial Status Report.

Secretary Ziemann informed the Authority that the 2 mill tax levy designated to the DIDA will be deposited into their NOW account as the taxes are paid, not annually (June) as done previously. The balance in the NOW account as of September 30, 1993 is \$33,742.06.

At this time Chairperson Bergquist officially welcomed Mr. Andresen as the DIDA staff support. She noted that Mr. Andresen's salary and the way it will be disbursed was reviewed by a few DIDA members. It was their suggestion that the \$10,000 designated for this shared position be disbursed to the Ironwood Chamber of Commerce on a monthly basis (\$833.33 per month) beginning November 1, 1993. It was also suggested that his salary be prorated from October 25 (his starting date) to October 31st.

Mr. Andresen confirmed that he is a Ironwood Chamber employee who will be contracted out for services to the DIDA and the Ironwood Planning Commission. He looked forward to working with the two groups.

Motion by Murphy, supported by Kinnunen. CARRIED. To authorize Secretary Ziemann to disburse a monthly salary (\$833.33) payable to the Ironwood Chamber of Commerce beginning November 1, 1993 for contractual services of William Andresen and that his salary be prorated for the week of October 25 (starting date) through October 31, 1993.

6. Discussion on Downtown residential tenants.

This topic was placed on the Agenda at the request of Chairperson Bergquist. She has seen first hand the problem that is occurring with certain tenants throwing objects out of windows, spitting on sidewalks, profanity and late night parties. The Police have been called many times and are aware of these tenants. Chairperson Bergquist suggested that possibly a letter be written to the landlord explaining the problems the behavior of his tenants are creating in the Downtown.

Member Newman arrived at 12:15 P.M.

City Manager Bailey indicated that it is not easy for government to deal with such problems and felt talking with the landlord is the key. Chamber Director Andresen agreed and suggested a personal contact with the landlord to inform him how negative the impact of having poor tenants in his building is on the Downtown as well as for him personally. The situation has to be addressed in a positive manner. If personal contact does not generate any results, the next step would be to contact him by letter.

Motion by Isakson, supported by Allen. CARRIED. To authorize Mr. Andresen to personally contact the landlord about the problem his tenants are creating and if this doesn't generate any positive results, to document the concern with a follow-up letter. (Under "Other Business" it was the consensus of the DIDA that a brainstorming session be held to discuss landlord concerns, this item will be carried over to that session for further review.)

7. Other Business.

Chairperson Bergquist noted that the DeCarlo property has been cleaned-up and that the area looks good.

Member Lorensen arrived at 12:25 P.M.

Chairperson Bergquist commented on the problems the City will have this winter with cleaning City-owned parking lots after snow storms. Downtown residents rely on these lots for overnight parking as well as the White Pine workers. A lengthy discussion followed with suggestions on remedies such as setting aside certain areas of lots for overnight parking, using odd and even nights for designated parking, ordinance revisions, working with the White Pine Transit on a solution, or possibly generating a business opportunity for an individual to manage the parking lots.

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Some members believe the problem has worsened because of additional apartments being developed in the Downtown without sufficient parking spaces available for new tenants. Again, Mr. Andresen believes that the solution is an easy one if you meet with landlords and tenants to explain the concerns but to have positive suggestions available on correcting the problem. He emphasized the need to educate the people and present it positively.

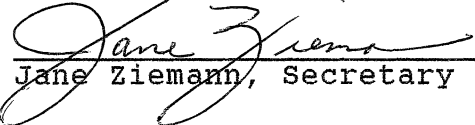
It was agreed that the next regular meeting of the DIDA will be a brainstorming session with the members bringing in a list of landlord issues and/or other concerns.

Secretary Ziemann requested that the regular meeting in November be rescheduled because the meeting day falls on Thanksgiving. Motion by Kinnunen, supported by Murphy, CARRIED. To reschedule the regular meeting day to November 18, 1993.

Member Kinnunen questioned the final recommendation on removing the Downtown signal lights. City Manager Bailey informed the Authority that due to recommendations from the Ironwood Planning Commission and the DIDA, the City Commission (by Resolution) requested the Michigan Department of Transportation not make any of the suggested changes. The MDOT has honored that request.

8. Adjournment.

Motion by Johnson, supported by Kinnunen. CARRIED. That this meeting be adjourned at 12:55 P.M.



Jane Ziemann, Secretary