



MINUTES
Regular Meeting of Principal Shopping District
October 11, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Cooper called the meeting to order at 7:32 AM. The meeting was held at City Hall located at 28 N. State Road, Newaygo, MI 49337.

Roll Call: Present: Cooper, Clor, Fedell, Friar, Parsley, Slominski
Absent: Faulkner, Nelson
Also Present: Jon Schneider: City Manager, Kim Goodin: Recording Secretary

Motion by Fedell, second by Slominski to excuse absent members. AIF/MC

Motion by Slominski, second by Parsley to approve the agenda as presented. AIF/MC

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Fedell, second by Friar to approve 08/09/2023 PSD regular meeting minutes. AIF/MC

PUBLIC COMMENTS

BOARD BUSINESS

Amy Dalman, Code Enforcement Officer, said that she had been contacted by an individual interested in playing their guitar utilizing one (1) amplifier in front of downtown businesses. Schneider asked Board Members for their input. Board and Schneider discussed the collection/not-collection of money by musician, noise level, music content regulations, designated areas, and City Ordinances. Fedell stated that the final decision would be made by City Council. Consensus of PSD Board was that they are open to the idea of allowing a musician to perform in front of businesses, but additional information needs to be researched prior to allowing this to happen. Schneider will review current Ordinances, talk with the City Attorney, and reach out to other communities that may have Ordinances related to this subject.

Board discussed what has worked and what has not worked in the past years with holiday music playing downtown. It was discussed that last year music did not play downtown due to speaker issues and Schneider said that the speaker issues have been repaired. Schneider said that the City office had received complaints because the music had not played during the Christmas Walk last year, but also receives complaints, when music plays, related to the music being too loud for apartments above the businesses. Consensus of board was that holiday music should start the Friday after Thanksgiving and be played until December 31, 2023 on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 12:00 pm to 7:00 pm and at the Christmas Walk from 6:15 pm-9:00 pm.

Schneider discussed information, which was included in packets, about a proposed Flash Mob event that Eric Johnson, City Council Member, had presented at the most recent Council meeting. He said that Johnson had discussed at a previous Council Meeting about the possibility of an entertainment stage on the parcel behind the Newaygo Elementary School above the retaining wall. Schneider said that Johnson is proposing this Flash Mob event as a trial to test and gather data on whether this would be a good site for future entertainment events. Board discussed safety concerns, liability, costs, insurance, and clean-up. Rachael Porter, from River Country Chamber of Commerce, was present and said that Johnson had discussed the event with the Chamber and that the Chamber would help promote the event, but did not have anything in their budget for any costs of the event and would not be chairing this event. PSD said that they are open to the idea, but would like to see the information that is brought back to Council.

Schneider stated that the City had acquired the parcel at 8 State Rd. for the Town Square Project that had been discussed at previous meetings. He said that the City plans to demolish the building and will probably change the curb and parking lot in front of the parcel to match curbs in the downtown to add continuity to the downtown. Schneider asked Board Members to contact him if they have any thoughts or ideas going forward with this parcel. PSD said that they like the idea of the continuity to the downtown.

Schneider discussed the current fiscal year budget, which was included in packets, stating that overall revenue and expenses are right where they should be.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Cooper asked about the status of changes that had been discussed at previous meetings for the North Parking Lot related to curb painting and striping. Schneider said these changes are still planned and they have been waiting for contractor to remove the paint along the necessary curbs.

Board discussed size of trees on sidewalks in front of businesses. Schneider informed the board that the trees were trimmed within the last year.

Motion by Fedell, second by Parsley to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 am. AIF/MC

PSD Recording Secretary/City Clerk-Kim Goodin