

MINUTES
CITY OF DAWSONVILLE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
G.L. Gilleland Council Chambers, City Hall 2nd Floor
Monday, September 26, 2022
5:30 P.M.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Keith Stone called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.
2. **ROLL CALL:** Present were members Jonathan Campbell, Tasha Howell, Kevin Hammond, Keith Stone, Dwight Gilleland and William Illg.

Jamie McCracken was not present at the meeting.

Also present was City Clerk Beverly Banister and City Manager Bob Bolz.
3. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE:** Invocation and pledge were led by William Illg.
4. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Motion to approve the agenda as presented made by W. Illg; second by D. Gilleland. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
5. **APPROVE MEETING MINUTES**
 - Regular Meeting held July 25, 2022

Motion to approve the minutes as presented made by K. Hammond; second by T. Howell. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
6. **REVIEW FINANCIALS THROUGH AUGUST 2022:** City Clerk Banister reviewed the recent financial activity of the Board through August 2022.

BUSINESS

7. **INTRODUCTION OF THE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT MANAGER:** City Manager Bolz introduced the City's newest hire, Amanda Edmondson, as the Director of Downtown Development, Tourism and Historic Preservation. Ms. Edmondson provided a short biography of her educational and professional experience; she was warmly welcomed by the Board.
8. **DDA GRANT FUNDS REQUEST:** The Board was presented with a grant fund request from Appalachian Armory. The applicant was not present at the meeting. Chairman Stone provided a history of the grant and the current guidelines; the Board held a discussion regarding the grant request.

Motion to approve grant funds in the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to Appalachian Armory for the renovations as specified on the grant application made by D. Gilleland; second by W. Illg. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
9. **DONATION FROM AMICALOLA EMC:** City Manager Bolz reported on the details concerning the donation to be provided by Amicalola EMC to the Downtown Development Authority.

Motion to accept the donation from Amicalola EMC and pass it to the City to provide safety netting at the playground in Main Street Park made by W. Illg; second by D. Gilleland. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
10. **DISCUSS ADVERTISING FOR DOWNTOWN DURING MOONSHINE FESTIVAL:** Dwight Gilleland stated his concern about the businesses located downtown who remain open during the Moonshine Festival but do not receive visitors because it is assumed the downtown businesses are closed. Discussion occurred.

Motion to approve the Director of Downtown Development, Amanda Edmondson to develop and spend up to \$2,500 for marketing purposes to advertise that downtown businesses are open during the Moonshine Festival and promoting the downtown during the Christmas event made by W. Illg; second by K. Hammond. Dwight Gilleland suggested a contest for the best Christmas decorations for downtown businesses. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Manager Bolz reported the City officially purchased the seventeen acre tract across the street. He also announced the City received a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission to develop a downtown strategic plan. Lastly, he provided renderings of a potential plan for the seventeen acre

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tract recently purchased and invited the Board to review it. City Clerk Banister stated she provided the Board with a copy of the 2023 meeting calendar dates which were adopted by the City Council.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:23 p.m. a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by D. Gilleland; second by W. Illg. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

Approved this 28th day of November 2022.

By: DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

absent

Keith Stone, Chair

Kevin Hammond

Kevin Hammond, Vice Chair

Tasha Howell

Tasha Howell, Treasurer/Secretary

absent

Dwight Gilleland

absent

Jamie McCracken

Jonathan Campbell

Jonathan Campbell

William Illg

William Illg, Councilmember

Attest:

Beverly A. Banister for

Beverly A. Banister, City Clerk