

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WEST BRANCH DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
HELD AT WEST BRANCH CITY HALL, 121 N. FOURTH ST. WEST BRANCH, MI ON TUESDAY,
JANUARY 23, 2024.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairperson Joe Clark at 12:02 pm.

Present: Joanne Bennett, Alan Bruder, Joe Clark, Autum Hunter, and Sandy Rabidue.

Absent: Samantha Fabbri, Erin Resteiner (attended virtually but was not able to vote), Ken Walters, and Cathy Zimmerman.

Others present: Acting Secretary/City Manager John Dantzer

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**MOTION BY RABIDUE, SECOND BY BENNETT, TO EXCUSE MEMBERS FABBRI,
RESTEINER, WALTERS, AND ZIMMERMAN FROM THE MEETING.**

Yes – Bennett, Bruder, Clark, Hunter, Rabidue	No – None
Absent – Fabbri, Resteiner, Walters, Zimmerman	Motion carried

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**MOTION BY RABIDUE, SECOND BY BRUDER, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM
THE REGULAR AND INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS HELD DECEMBER 15, 2023.**

Yes – Bennett, Bruder, Clark, Hunter, Rabidue	No – None
Absent – Fabbri, Resteiner, Walters, Zimmerman	Motion carried

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**MOTION BY BRUDER, SECOND BY RABIDUE, TO MOVE THE FEBRUARY
MEETING TO WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH AT NOON.**

Yes – Bennett, Bruder, Clark, Hunter, Rabidue	No – None
Absent – Fabbri, Resteiner, Walters, Zimmerman	Motion carried

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**MOTION BY CLARK, SECOND BY HUNTER, TO RECOMMEND TO CITY COUNCIL
THE REAPPOINTMENTS OF JOANNE BENNETT AND SANDY RABIDUE FOR A 4-
YEAR TERM.**

Yes – Bennett, Bruder, Clark, Hunter, Rabidue	No – None
Absent – Fabbri, Resteiner, Walters, Zimmerman	Motion carried

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MOTION BY BENNETT, SECOND BY RABIDUE, TO APPROVE THE BID FROM RAUHORN ELECTRIC TO HAVE THEM INSTALL, DURING THEIR WORK WITH MDOT, THE ELECTRICAL INFRASTRURE TO ADD BOXES IN THE PLANTER BOXES AS SUBMITTED NOT TO EXCEED \$23,750.00.

**Yes – Bennett, Bruder, Clark, Hunter, Rabidue
Absent – Fabbri, Resteiner, Walters, Zimmerman**

**No – None
Motion carried**

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Vice-Chairperson Clark gave a Retail Merchants update and noted some of the things they were working on for promotion of the downtown’s businesses during the MDOT construction project.

Member Bennett noted she would like to see some billboards incorporated into the business promotions.

Member Bruder noted some discussion of a large sports and recreation complex project that could take place in the area.

Member Bruder asked if the DDA funds account was looked at recently to take advantage of the higher interest rates being seen now. Acting Secretary/Manager Dantzer noted the account was recently looked at and they were rolled into a different account to take advantage of the higher interest.

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A reminder of the annual joint meeting with City Council and the Planning Commission was shared.

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The meeting was adjourned at 12:34 pm.