

Minutes of Meeting
Newton Downtown SSMID Board
Via Zoom & City Website: www.newtongov.org

April 13, 2021

ROLL CALL

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

R. O'Brien; J Prendergast; A. Leber; M. Pryke; J. Maki

STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT:

Matt Muckler, City Administrator; Craig Armstrong, Development Specialist

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m. by Chair O'Brien.

Review of Minutes. The Minutes of the SSMID Board Meeting on March 9, 2021 were reviewed and approved. MOTION by Pryke, seconded by Prendergast. Voice Vote (Unanimous).

Finance Report. The Board reviewed the current SSMID Budget Status and approved the current FY 21 Finance Report. MOTION by Prendergast, seconded by Pryke. Voice Vote (Unanimous).

New Business.

a. Council Approval of 2021 Downtwon Area Cleaning & Floral Maintenance Contract. Armstrong reported that the City Council had formally approved the contract for downtown area cleaning and floral maintenance at their regular meeting on Monday, April 5th. The contract has been signed by Mayor Hansen and will be presented to Randy Ray for his signature. The contract will be in effect from May 1st through October 31st, 2021.

b. Other. None.

Old Business.

a. Update on Floral Planter project – (Yeager). Yeager was absent due to attendance at a Main Street conference, but Pryke reported on Yeager's behalf that the floral planters approved by the SSMID board had been ordered and would be shipped within a few weeks, along with the four (4) planters ordered by Newton Main Street.

b. Downtown Spring Flag Display – (Yeager/Maki). Armstrong agreed to check on the existing stock of spring/summer oriented flags with Yeager and ask her to coordinate with Prendergast on the availability and cost of purchasing twenty (20) new spring/summer flags. MOTION by O'Brien to authorize a "not to exceed" expenditure of \$400.00 to purchase new spring/summer flags for the Courthouse Sqaure, seconded by Prendergast. Voice Vote (Unanimous).

c. Other. None.

"Lightning Round" updates from community partner organizations: DDNA - Prendergast reported that the April 10th "Ladies Day Out" event was very successful, with a large turnout of shoppers. The event will be done again in the Fall. May 7-9, downtown retailers will participate in the "Back Roads Junket" in cooperation with retailers in other central Iowa communities. May 13th is "Grand Opening" day for Farmhouse Creations and Crazy Redhead Quilting. On June 1st, a nutrition shop will open in the former Baqara Floral building and, on the Saturday of Newton Fest, the popular Wine Walk will return and will include food trucks on the County parking lot. Pryke reported that her Lemon Tree Tea House & Restaurant will open a new back deck for outside dining, made possible by a downtown improvement grant.

Meeting Adjournment: At 9:34 a.m. – MOTION by Prendergast, seconded by O’Brien. Voice Vote (Unanimous).