

OTTAWA PORT DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 20, 2013

ROLL CALL

President Keith Conrad called the regular meeting of the Port District to order on December 20, 2013 at 8 a.m. with the following board members present: Keith Conrad, William Franklin, Jr., Charles Sheridan, Katie Troccoli, and Thomas Haeberle. Members John Stone and Mark Stoudt were absent. Also present were Attorney Rich Burton, Dave Noble, Boyd Palmer, and Reed Wilson. Mayor Eschbach joined the meeting after it was convened.

MINUTES

Minutes of the regular meeting of November 15, 2013 were presented and approved with a typing error amendment by unanimous vote following a motion to approve by William Franklin, Jr. and second by Charles Sheridan.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Katie Troccoli presented her financial report which included website maintenance billing. The financial report was approved on motion of Charles Sheridan, second by Thomas Haeberle and unanimous oral vote. The district has not been reimbursed by Heritage Harbor for any USDA application costs.

COMMUNICATIONS

None

MEMBER REPORTS

President Keith Conrad gave the board an update as to the Asian Carp problem. No private fishing entity is expected in our area. The population of Asian Carp is greater south of the Starved Rock lock and dam. Our area could be served by one or more of several state teams assigned to keep down the Asian Carp population.

OLD BUSINESS

President Keith Conrad will forward the revised intergovernmental agreement to the City for their final approval and signing.

Mark was not present to talk about issues relevant to possible construction of one or more large shell buildings as an incentive to draw new industry to the area. Bill Franklin and Boyd Palmer suggested that a minimum shell size should be between 100,000 to 200,000 square feet with 22 foot height. Financing is likely available through USDA and the Upper Illinois River Valley Development Authority.

Mayor Eschbach, David Noble and Reed Wilson made a comprehensive presentation about the Ottawa Riverfront Development Plan. The basic development concepts are in place

such as various public areas, parking, and private development area. Actual development will take place in phases over time and will be customized and driven by local economic interests.

NEW BUSINESS

David Noble made a presentation as to the anticipated further expansion of the Route 6 area industrial park. He provided comments on how future lots would likely be established in relationship to rail spurs. Improvements made for Heritage Harbor will benefit the industrial park. Boyd Palmer and Reed Wilson commented on the valuable benefits of the industrial park which include quality broadband and transportation options of rail, and nearby river and interstate highway access.

Boyd Palmer and William Franklin, Jr. discussed possible changes of transportation fuel from gas and diesel to natural gas. Natural gas as fuel provides fuel savings and environmental benefits.

ADJOURN

On motion of Katie Troccoli and second by Charles Sheridan, the meeting was adjourned at about 9:15 a.m. The next meeting of the port district will be January 17, 2014.