

OTTAWA PORT DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 16, 2015

ROLL CALL

Keith Conrad called a regular meeting of the Port District to order at City Hall on October 16, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. with the following board members present: Keith Conrad, William Franklin, Jr., Katie Troccoli, Thomas Haeberle and Charles Sheridan. Also present were Reed Wilson and Rich Burton.

MINUTES

Minutes from September 18, 2015 meeting were presented and approved as amended by unanimous vote following a motion by William Franklin, Jr. and second by Charles Sheridan.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Reed Wilson discussed the open availability of the former call center located in the South Town Mall.

The Industrial Park is near completion and ready for marketing and new business.

The City of Ottawa Federal Grant application is in the final stages of the application process. A public hearing is scheduled for Monday October 19 at 7 p.m. The grant program has funds of about 42 million dollars for projects and Ottawa is seeking up to 15 million to be covered by their grant application.

Downtown building occupancy is doing well with the new In Bloom retail store opening on Main Street. The new restaurants on Madison Street are progressing. The Margarita building will be sold within the next month. There has been much improvement on Court Street with the Ottawa Bakery business reviving the area. The façade is now visible for Tangled Root which may have some parts opens for business in late November. The Boat Club is also open for business on weekends and is available for receptions.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Katie Troccoli presented a financial report, which was approved along with usual and customary bills on motion of Charles Sheridan, and second by Thomas Haeberle and unanimous oral vote. The board approved a transfer of funds from savings to checking to cover bills on motion of William Franklin, Jr., a second by Charles Sheridan and unanimous oral vote.

MEMBER REPORTS

William Franklin, Jr. reported progress on the Multi Model project. Report information is now available. Three sites are not under consideration.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion took place as the availability of boat slips available along with West side of the Fox River going up to the Boat Club. We are still hoping to get Rook from Skydive Chicago at a meeting but due to limited time constraints the Port District will likely not be active in any of the upcoming major events scheduled at their facility.

NEW BUSINESS

Reed discussed the Economic Development Corporation of North Central Illinois. It is about 69% funded for startup and the prospects of the project reaching a funding goal for initial start-up looks good. The EDC will act as a resource for all of its members and be the contact entity for business looking for a home in our area.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m. upon motion of Thomas Haeberle and Charles Sheridan, and unanimous oral vote. The next regular meeting of the port district will be November 20, 2015.