

OTTAWA PORT DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 17, 2015

ROLL CALL

Keith Conrad called a regular meeting of the Port District to order at City Hall on November 17, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. with the following board members present: Keith Conrad, William Franklin, Jr., Katie Troccoli, John Stone, Thomas Haeberle and Charles Sheridan. Also present were Boyd Palmer, Reed Wilson, Dave Noble, Mike Sutfin, and Rich Burton.

MINUTES

Minutes from October 16, 2015 meeting were presented and approved as amended by unanimous vote following a motion by William Franklin, Jr. and second by Charlie Sheridan.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Boyd Palmer spoke about Department of Labor rules not favorable to employers making more difficult denial of overtime for salaried employees. Boyd also spoke about changes to unemployment rules, however, that are more favorable to employers. Finally, Boyd spoke about recent sales activities for several commercial properties.

Matt Stafford spoke about flood plain regulations of the county and activities of the County in the vicinity of the Nursing Home and Highway Department.

David Noble spoke about activities of Pilkington in expanding their operations and infrastructure. David also spoke about the City's activities to seek a brown field clean up grant for up to \$200,000.00 with a 50% payback. David identified for the board the various brown field sites in our area. The number of sites in the Ottawa area is a significant. David requested the Port District issue a support letter to supplement the City's Application. On motion of Katie Troccoli, second by William Franklin, Jr. and unanimous oral vote, Keith Conrad was authorized to prepare and sign a grant support letter on behalf of the Port District. Dave also spoke about the status of the City's sewer improvement waterfront park grant application.

Mike Sutfin spoke about the Port District adopting rules requested by Homeland Security and the Coast Guard as to the docking of large vessels in the vicinity of Allen Park.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Katie Troccoli presented a financial report, which was approved by motion of Thomas Haeberle, second by William Franklin, Jr. and unanimous oral vote. Bills were approved on motion by William Franklin, Jr. and second by Charles Sheridan and unanimous oral vote. Rich Burton advised that he will be suspending his billings for the near future.

OLD BUSINESS

The recreational study board will soon be meeting with planners.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion followed as to multiple concerns and potential projects. The accumulation of sediment and the need of dredging of portions of the Fox River, particularly near the aqueduct, was discussed. David Noble suggested the need for a water study. The need for additional docks in the area of the confluence of the Fox and Illinois Rivers was discussed. Use of portions of Harper's Farm was discussed and the possibilities of establishing a controlled wetlands area.

Keith Conrad or others will attempt to reach out to David Wortman from the Illinois Department of Commerce, Office of Community Development to potentially visit Ottawa and provide comments on community development.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m. upon motion of William Franklin, Jr. and Katie Troccoli, and unanimous oral vote. The next regular meeting of the port district will be November 17, 2015.