

OTTAWA PORT DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 19, 2016

ROLL CALL

Keith Conrad called a regular meeting of the Port District to order at City Hall on February 19, 2016 at 8:00 A.M. with the following board members present: Keith Conrad, William Franklin, Jr., Thomas Haeberle, Katie Troccoli, Mark Stoudt, and Charles Sheridan. Also present were Boyd Palmer, Reed Wilson, Dave Noble, Matt Stafford and Rich Burton.

MINUTES

Minutes from January 15, 2016 meeting were presented and approved by unanimous vote following a motion by William Franklin, Jr. and second by Thomas Haeberle.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Boyd Palmer commented about the start of a Chamber sponsored networking lunch. The first lunch meeting will be a JJ's Thursday Feb 25<sup>th</sup>. Meeting will include commercial time for participants to speak about their businesses and a featured program where participants can have an opportunity to provide a greater insight into their business or business related issues. Boyd also spoke about several inquiries from parties potentially locating in the Ottawa area. Discussion took place about the continued problems in locating new business ventures in the old Walmart and Starbucks locations. Boyd advised that the Times is dropping Starved Rock Country publications and commented about discussions about how to continue area branding before served by the publication.

Boyd led discussion about the opening of Tangled Root, a woman's clinic to be located in the Central Life Building and the Recreation Center study. David Noble joined in comments about the potential Recreation Center identifying the interests in various parties in such a venture and the success or lack of success of such facilities in other communities.

Reed Wilson spoke about recent and anticipated efforts to organize the EDC. Ballots will be going out for board membership which will be made up of a mix of governmental and private business representatives.

David Noble and Reed Wilson spoke about the availability of City property on Court Street, the former Little City lot, and the Industrial Park. A connection path is under construction linking Heritage Harbor to the nearby I&M Canal Corridor path.

Matt Stafford advised that rural county development was still slow. He was entering flood plain permits into the County GIS system. David Noble spoke about flood inundations maps soon to be available to the public indicated stages of water inundation at various river flood levels.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Katie provided bank statements as to current balances and a check was approved for \$210.14 for maintaining the Port District post office. Rich Burton reported receipt of a fine notice for the District's late filing of their AFR. He presented a request for waiver of fine which was approved and signed by President Keith Conrad for filing with the office of the Illinois Comptroller.

ADJOURN

There being no further reports or business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 a.m. upon motion of William Franklin, Jr., second by Katie Troccoli and unanimous oral vote. The next regular meeting of the district will be March 18, 2016, and President Keith Conrad advised that he will likely be absent.