



DOWNTOWN
LANSING INC.

June 25, 2020 – 11:30 a.m.

Special Meeting of the DLI Board.

Meeting held via Zoom

401 S. Washington Square, Ste. 101

Lansing, MI 48933

Members Present: J.V. Anderton, Cara Nader, Karl Dorshimer, Jim Tischler, TJ Bucholz

Meeting Minutes

- I. Meeting called to order at 11:49 a.m.
- II. Citizen's Comments (items not on the agenda): None
- III. Correspondence: None
- IV. Approval of agenda for June 25, 2020: Motion to Approve by K. Dorshimer. Second by T.J. Bucholz.
MOTION PASSED unanimously.
- V. Discussion/Action Items:
 - a. Amended FY 2019-2020 budget: J. Tischler introduced the updates regarding DLI's FY 2020 budget. Due to new staffing within the city, and in an effort to give sufficient notice after billing, city tax assessments were sent out late, causing a negative impact to our fiscal year-end budget projections as the final assessment income will not hit our tax roll until July, 2020. The amended budget that was presented to City Council included transferring over \$178,000 from the City's general fund yet this fiscal year, which includes \$93,000 of Transfer funds projected in our approved FY 2021 budget, as well as the use of \$22,972 from DLI's fund balance. While this is meant to have a net zero effect over the next FY, meaning FY 2021 adjustments reflect what would come in with the assessments as well as some of what was transferred for this fiscal year, there are still some issues with our fund balance that need to be worked out with the city in order to make us whole. K. Dorshimer asked why the City couldn't front all from their fund balance, however as J. Tishler explained, this solution lessens the overall budget impact for the city.

Board discussion took place and while the entire board expressed concerns regarding how this happened in the first place, we are trusting that the City will be true to their word and that DLI will continue to work to be a part of the solution.

Motion by J. Tischler to amend the FY 2020 budget as presented. Second by T.J. Bucholz.
MOTION PASSED unanimously.

J. Tishler also recommended adoption of the revised FY 2021 budget as presented to the Board, with additional reviews of the budget and necessary budget adjustments being made in subsequent meetings to restore our fund balance and the overall budget.

Motion by J. Tischler. Second by K. Dorshimer. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

- b. Rotary Park Coordinator Position: C. Edgerly had follow-up discussion with the Community Foundation as well as Delta Dental regarding moving forward with hiring the part-time Rotary Park activation coordinator. The job had been posted back in March with interviews conducted in early April. The Foundation and Delta Dental both feel that now, more than ever, our outdoor spaces play a necessary role in safely bringing people together. However they also understand the larger budget impacts going on at a city level and respect the Board's decision if they want to wait until after the first of the year. Staff has concerns regarding having a person join when we are on furloughs and cut the Adopt-a-Spot coordinator position, while also expressing concerns on future waves of COVID and a possible tenant at the City Market Space. Board discussion took place surrounding opportunity costs versus effectiveness costs and overall, feels that if we wait to bring someone on after the first of the year, this would allow the position to be better set-up for success, have time to build relationships and an activation plan that has positive impact and would be a more efficient use of funds in the long run.

MOTION to wait until after the first of the calendar year to hire someone for this part-time position and communicate the Board's decision to both the Community Foundation and Delta Dental so the position is set up for success and has the maximum desired effectiveness by K. Dorshimer. Second by C. Nader. **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

VI. Adjourn: *Motion to adjourn at 12:22 p.m. by T.J. Bucholz. Second by K. Dorshimer. MOTION PASSED*

1. Lansing City Council Resolution #2020-055 suspended the Council rule requiring physical presence at meetings for the duration of the declared state of emergency. Michigan Executive Order 2020-15 provides temporary authorization of remote participation in public meetings and hearings.