

Minutes of Meeting
Newton Downtown SSMID Board
Via Zoom & City Website: www.newtongov.org

August 10, 2021

ROLL CALL

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: R. O'Brien; J. Maki; M. Pryke

STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT: Craig Armstrong, Development Specialist; Erin Yeager, Newton Main Street; Matt Muckler, City Administrator

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m. by Chair O'Brien.

Review of Minutes. The Minutes of the SSMID Board Meeting on June 8, 2021 were reviewed and approved. MOTION by Pryke, seconded by O'Brien. Voice Vote (Unanimous).

Finance Report. The July 31, 2021 Finance Report was reviewed and approved. MOTION by Maki, seconded by Pryke. Voice Vote (Unanimous).

New Business.

a. Jasper County Removal of Bunkers & Flagpoles – Courthouse Square. Maki reported that Jasper County Maintenance Supervisor, Adam Sparks, had requested input from the SSMID board regarding the removal of the concrete bunkers on each corner around the Courthouse, as well as the disposition of the flagpoles. City Administrator Muckler suggested that input on the County project was needed from Public Works Director, Jody Rhone, and Community Services Director, Brian Laube. Pryke suggested that one flagpole per corner be kept, while Chair O'Brien noted that the SSMID board should draft a "wish list" for the County's corners to present to the Supervisors. Pryke also suggested that a flagpole, flower pot and bench be placed on each corner for the spring/summer seasons, removable in the fall/winter. Chair O'Brien requested that Jody Rhone, Brian Laube and Adam Sparks be invited to attend the next SSMID board meeting on September 14th for a further discussion. Main Street Director Yeager volunteered to listen to the next Supervisor's meeting and email any updates on this project to SSMID board members.

b. Other. None.

Old Business.

a. Additional SSMID projects – FY 21-22. Deferred to September 14th SSMID board meeting.

b. Update on Floral Planter project – (Yeager). All but four of the floral planters were sponsored.

c. Downtown Flag Display Schedule – (Yeager/Maki). U.S. flags will go up on Labor Day, with red/black flags going up after Labor Day. All flag displays are contingent upon the County's schedule for removal of the bunkers and flagpoles.

d. Other. None.

"Lightning Round" updates from community partner organizations: MAIN STREET – Erin Yeager reported that Farmer's Market continues to be well-attended by vendors and patrons. Magnetic Main Street Fundraiser scheduled for Sept. 23rd (Homecoming Parade day). Farm-To-Table Dinner slated for October 2nd; planning to stage the dinner on N 2nd Avenue E, weather permitting (Hotel Maytag Ballroom is backup plan). Debi

Durham from IFA/IEDA toured downtown Newton in July and was “very impressed”. 1st Avenue Nutrition is open and doing an excellent business so far.

Meeting Adjournment: At 8:50 a.m. – MOTION by Pryke, seconded by O’Brien. Voice Vote (Unanimous).